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Kaifu Stresses 'Openness' at Pacific Basin Forum

OW2005123890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT 20 May 90

[By Waka Hamada]

[Text] Tokyo, May 20 (KYODO)—"Openness" is the key to further economic prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region, which is expected to become the focal point of worldwide economic activity in the new decade, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Sunday.

"The Pacific rim region must continue to be an open market in order to help maintain and strengthen the global free trading system," Kaifu told the plenary session of the 23rd International general meeting of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC). The region, which has been the most dynamic economic performer in recent years, should play a role as "the growth center of the world" while acting as a leading model of the free market-oriented economy, he told the multilateral business forum, which this year has attracted about 550 participants from 17 countries.

His remarks reinforced those made earlier at the session by U.S. President George Bush, who contributed a videotaped speech. Bush said it is important that as the East-West confrontations of the Cold War melt away they are not replaced by protectionism and "managed trade" in the Pacific. "The nations of this region must work to develop common rules and guidelines to promote healthy competition—a competition based on free and fair trade," he said.

Kaifu also said Japan, as a member of the Pacific region, will continue to make an active contribution to peace and stability of the region by acting as a mediator in pending regional conflicts in Cambodia and the Korean peninsula.

Especially aware of expectations of the developing nations for an enhanced commitment to their efforts to vitalize their economies, Japan will extend continued financial, technological, and personnel aid to them, Kaifu said, while also giving consideration to the political, economic, social, and cultural diversity in each country.

The plenary session, held at the NHK Hall in Tokyo, was one of the highlights of the five-day PBEC meeting, which opened Saturday under the theme of "Pacific Cooperation in the Changing Global Environment of the 1990s—Growth and Harmony".

Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, speaking via satellite linkup, called Japan the "primary engine" for regional growth and urged the country to remain a friendly ally of the United States out of consideration for the region's interests. "If trade and investments continue between them (Japan and the U.S.), the rest of the Asia-Pacific region will grow," Lee said. He also said Japan must resolve its trade problems with the U.S., adding that progress in their bilateral trade talks will benefit other countries as well.

Lee also said the "blessing" of the region's economic prosperity must be given to the people of noncapitalist countries like China, Vietnam, and Myanmar. He added that China must ultimately join the ranks of free market economies, following in the footsteps of Taiwan and Hong Kong.

At the one-hour session, the heads of state and government of other countries, including Mexican President Carlos Salinas and Chilean President Patricio Aylwin, delivered speeches via satellite or on pre-recorded tapes expressing their views on their countries' roles in regional cooperation during the new era of Asia.

South Korean President No Tae-u, who is scheduled to visit Japan from May 24 to 26, said on video that despite its economic success, East Asia has failed to wipe clean the negative legacies of its unhappy history, referring to World War II. "We should take a progressive and broadminded approach aimed at fully liquidating the residues of the unfortunate past and laying a solid foundation for amicable cooperation," he said.

In response to No's remarks, Kaifu expressed regret over "the sad past" and pledged that Japan will never repeat such a mistake, so that the region will literally be "Pacific."

Japan

U.S. 'Live-Firing' Training Resumes in Okinawa

OW2205051690 Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese 17 May 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "U.S. Forces Resume Live-Firing Training"]

[Text] On 15 May, marking the 18th anniversary of Okinawa's reversion to Japanese rule, rallies were held in Naha, Hirara, and Ishikaki City to condemn the Okinawan situation, which is under the pressure of U.S. military bases, and to pledge anew the struggle for peace and the withdrawal of the bases.

Before these rallies were held, Okinawans staged a three-course peace march on the main island of Okinawa, appealing for an antiwar, antinuclear, and antibase policy. Some 800 representatives from the mainland of Japan also participated in the march, witnessing the reality of "the bases in Okinawa."

The rallies announced an appeal to people supporting their cause in Japan and friends throughout the the world to face up to the reality of Okinawa, where the military bases are being consolidated at a time when the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, are moving toward easing tensions, and to rise up for a peace struggle.

The rallies adopted a resolution opposing any sort of military training and calling for a complete closing of the military bases. The rallies also adopted a resolution demanding a halt to the construction of ammunition dumps for use by the Self-Defense Force and the exclusive use of the [Naha] Airport by civilian aircraft.

On 16 May, when the appeals in the rallies still lingered, the U.S. Marine Corps began a three-day live-firing training across Prefectural Highway 104 in a Camp Hansen training area in defiance of the appeals of Okinawans for a halt to the training. U.S. troops fired one live shell after another into Onna Mountain from six gun positions, using 155-mm howitzers, capable of firing both nuclear and nonnuclear shells. The live-firing will continue for three days.

Meanwhile, Special Forces (Green Berets) of the U.S. Army began live-firing on 16 May in the urban-type combat training ground in Onna Village. Onna Village has been taking action against the construction of the training ground, located only a few hundred meters from residential areas, and against any training in the area. The prefectural assembly has adopted three resolutions calling for a halt to construction. Therefore, we feel regret over the training the U.S. forces have begun, ignoring the opposition of the Okinawan people.

When Okinawa reverted to Japanese rule, the password of Okinawans was "Okinawa free of nuclear weapons, like the mainland of Japan." Now, after the 18 years since Okinawa reverted to Japanese rule, the state of military bases remains unchanged. About 75 percent of U.S. military facilities in Japan are concentrated in Okinawa, and on the contrary, the function of the bases is being consolidated. Many Okinawans are uneasy about the U.S. bases. According to a poll of Okinawans taken by the Prime Minister's Office in late last year, 29.5 percent of the respondents said that U.S. military bases in Okinawa are "necessary" and "inevitable" for the security of Japan, while 60.7 percent of the respondents said that they are "unnecessary" and "dangerous." The resumption of training a day after the rallies held by the Okinawan people cannot be acceptable from the standpoint of Okinawans' feelings, and can be viewed as a challenge to the public opinion of Okinawa.

The U.S. Defense Department has recently made public plans to cut back on U.S. troops in the Asian and Pacific region and, needless to say, U.S. forces in Okinawa will be subject to the plans. If the bases are not closed in keeping with troop cuts under the plans, the plans will not have brought about any genuine disarmament. Among other things, U.S. forces should immediately stop dangerous training near residential areas.

Okinawans Protest Nuclear Submarine's Port Call

OW2205042490 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 20 May 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Katsuren-cho—The Katsuren-cho Town Assembly (Speaker Shuzo Shimabukuro) on 19 May held an extraordinary session to discuss issues related to a port call by the U.S. Navy nuclear submarine Guardfish (3,750 tons) at White Beach, and unanimously adopted a "protest resolution opposing port calls by nuclear submarines of the United States." This is the third such protest resolution adopted by the same town assembly this year. The previous resolution was adopted on 24 January.

The new protest resolution declared: "It is truly regrettable that, despite our repeated protests, [a nuclear submarine] once again called at the port against the townspeople's wishes, thus creating great apprehension among the townspeople." The resolution, while harshly protesting [the present port call], strongly opposed future port calls. Copies of the resolution were sent to the foreign minister, director general of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency, and governor of Okinawa Prefecture.

Assemblymen this time, however, were able to pass the resolution at the extraordinary session, after clashing hard over the contents of the resolution. The session started at 1000 in the morning. It took some seven hours, including recesses, to adopt the resolution with minor changes to the original text.

When the assembly passed similar resolutions in 1986 and 1988, they suggested being against bases per se, sying that "we must reexamine the rationale for continued existence of the U.S. base in our town." The assembly's resolution this time, however, did not have such a clause. One assembly member complained that "its contents have been retrograded."

While eventually passed along the line of the original draft, the contents of the resolution strongly reflected interests of landlords, who have land on the military bases, and fishermen, who depend on fishery compensation to supplement their income. It was an occasion which has brought out to the open the reality of Katsuren-cho, which is in no position to demand "withdrawal of the bases."

U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander Meets Nishihiro

OW2105103890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1004 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 21 KYODO—U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander in Chief Adm. [Admiral] Charles Larson met Monday with Defense Agency Vice Minister Seiki Nishihiro to exchange views on bilateral and regional security. Larson, in Japan for the first time after his appointment in February, praised the smooth operation of Rimpac and other military exercises with Japan and other Pacific rim allies. Nishihiro and Larson reiterated past views that the Asian-Pacific region remains unstable in contrast with easing tensions in Europe. The two also voiced fears of ethnic uprisings in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe spilling over into the Middle East and Asia.

U.S. Presses for Lifting of Interest Controls

OW2205112190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0721 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—U.S. Treasury officials urged their Japanese counterparts to eliminate regulations on interest rates within a year, but the two sides remain divided over timing, officials said Tuesday. "It's important to implement the process of interest rate deregulation as quickly as possible," said U.S. Treasury Undersecretary David Mulford, who led the U.S. delegation to a two-day working-level meeting on finance which ended Tuesday.

Speaking at a press conference after the second round of bilateral finance talks, Mulford said he hopes the Finance Ministry will present a timetable for interest rate deregulation by November, the month before the U.S. Treasury is to submit to the U.S. Congress a controversial report.

The Treasury is required by law to present the report on whether Japan and other countries give U.S. banks and other financial institutions the same access they receive in U.S. markets. A negative report could pronpt sanctions in financial areas. "As of today, it will not be possible for the U.S. Treasury to give a positive report on the Japanese market," Mulford said.

Appearing at the press meeting along with Mulford, Makoto Utsumi, vice finance minister for international affairs, said the two sides agreed in principle that interest deregulation should be made, but said the problem of timing remains to be solved.

"We're moving in the direction of liberalization but at stake is the timing," said Utusmi, who headed the Japanese team. Utsumi said the Japanese did not give any timetable for interest rate deregulation, and declined to provide specific reasons for this.

Financial experts have pointed out it is difficult for the Finance Ministry to go ahead with such liberalization too quickly because it would pose a threat to smaller banks due to the resulting higher fund-raising costs.

At present, roughly half the interest rates in Japan are subject to government regulations, which have come under fire from the U.S. for benefitting Japanese banks by keeping market interest rates artificially low, thus enabling them to raise funds at lower costs to expand into overseas markets.

"No decision has been made within the Finance Ministry on when full deregulation should go into effect... but we don't think it can be done at a slow pace," Utsumi said. But the Finance Ministry reportedly plans to lift the remaining regulations on interest rates on both demand and time deposits by the autumn of 1993.

Mulford said he had heard such rumors from the Finance Ministry, but noted that "this means that Japanese banks will continue to benefit from a regulated market at home while being provided with an immense subsidy allowing them to expand on open and substantially deregulated markets abroad."

"The Treasury and the Finance Ministry probably ride one bicycle," Mulford said, commenting on Utsumi's remark comparing close ties between the two agencies to riding a bicycle. "Everytime we get to a hill, we get speed up ... but the Ministry of Finance tends to put on the brakes."

Mulford acknowledged that deregulating interest rates is a "sensitive" and "delicate" issue in Japan, but stressed the importance of interest rate liberalization to speed up the liberalization of Japan's financial markets. He said that completion of the deregulation process is a key to all other liberalization in dealing with Japan's interest structure, management of monetary policy and development of a more effective money market."

Besides interest rate deregulation, the U.S. urged the Japanese to widen U.S. access to management of pension funds and investment trusts and to the short-term money market, officials said. On these points, Japan pledged to allow four foreign brokerage houses, all from the United States, to open banking units in Japan, they said.

Also, the Japanese promised to give the go-ahead to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange's plan to launch its Globex, a computerized trading system which will make it possible to carry out trading in futures and options online around the clock.

As for a bill now before the U.S. Congress which would give the Treasury the power to stop foreign financial companies from expanding in the United States, Mulford reiterated his opposition to the legislation as he did earlier in testimony before Congress. The bill, sponsored by Donald Riegle, the Democratic chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, would shut foreign banks and brokerage houses out of U.S. markets if their home markets are not open to their U.S. rivals.

Official Not To Divulge Public Spending Ratio

OW2205060290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0244 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto reiterated Tuesday that Japan will not inform the U.S. of the ratio of its planned public works spending over the next 10 years to its gross national product [GNP]. "It is hard to believe the U.S. has raised the issue again," he told a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting. "Agreement was reached (between Japan and the U.S.) not to mention the GNP ratio when an interim report on the Structural Impediments Initiative was made in early April," he said.

Hashimoto's remarks come a day after an unidentified U.S. source said that the U.S. will stick to its request for the revelation of the GNP figure in the final report due out in late June. Japan will make its stance clear again on the issue at an unofficial meeting to be held in Hawaii on May 23 and 24, a Finance Ministry source said.

Government, LDP Propose New Economic Reforms

OW2205060790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0252 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—The government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] have outlined a package of proposals for structural reforms of Japan's economy aimed at enhancing the nation's standard of living, government sources said Tuesday. The recommendations by a working group feature seven major elements, focusing on improving living standards and consumer benefits in accordance with world economic growth, the sources said.

Following a series of reports and recommendations on a wide range of economic reforms put forward recently by the government's working councils, the government has revised similar guidelines revamped in June 1988 with an eye to advocating steps to bring economic activity into greater harmony with global prosperity. The proposals also cover the major points in disputes at ongoing U.S.-Japan bilateral trade talks to remove barriers to trade and investment, the sources said.

Placing priority on harmonizing Japanese business and economic activities with those of other countries, the government has incorporated in the proposals the relaxation of Japan's Large Retail Store Law, the stricter enforcement of the Antimonopoly Law, and a 10-year plan to increase public works spending. The proposals also include measures addressed to land and housing policies, a major source of discontent, and inequality among the Japanese people, the sources added.

Finance Minister on Yen, Aid for East Europe

OW1805034790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 18 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on Friday welcomed the current level of the yen-dollar exchange rate and said it is gravitating toward and could very well settle at the level where it should be. He told a press conference after a cabinet meeting that the strength of the dollar since the beginning of the year was having a detrimental effect on the U.S. economy. He said the huge widening of the U.S. trade gap for March in data announced Thursday "can perhaps be explained in part by the halt in the increase of U.S. exports during the period when the dollar appreciated against the yen."

Asked to comment on the formal signing of an agreement on monetary union between the two Germanys later Friday Japan time, Hashimoto suggested Japan will actively supply much-needed funds to support East European economic reforms. "Since demand for new funds will emerge in Eastern Europe, it is vital for Japan to play the role it has to play," he said.

Sony Plans Marketing Network in East Europe

OW1805083190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0658 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 18 KYODO—Sony Corp. plans a marketing network in East Europe for its consumer electronics products to cash in on new Western-style markets now being created there, industry sources said Friday. If the plan materializes, Sony will be the first major Japanese consumer electronics firm to have outlets in the region, which is in transition to free market-oriented economies following the thaw in the East-West cold war late last year.

The sources said Sony Deutschland, the company's sales subsidiary based in Cologne, West Germany, will be in charge of the creation of the network, through which television sets, audio-visual equipment, and videotape recorders are to be distributed. They said the move is expected to reap handsome dividends for the company in the near future amid strong consumer demand for Japanese electronics products there. They also said Sony is eyeing the East German market in particular, where the appetite for consumption of its products is expected to grow substantially following the upcoming monetary union of both Germanys.

USSR Seeks Payment Delay for New Purchases

OW2105141090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 21 KYODO—The Soviet Union has asked Japanese creditors for a one-year deferment in its payments for recently purchased steel pipes, industry sources said Monday. The Soviets, in making the request, promised to pay about 100 million dollars by the end of June for about 130,000 tons of pipes for shipment in fiscal 1989 ended March 31, the sources said.

Major Japanese steel pipe mills and major trading companies, through which the pipe export deals with the Soviets were clinched, rejected the Soviet request. They said, however, they would be willing to grant an up to 180-day deferment in payment on condition that a letter of guarantee is sent. But the Soviets are reluctant to provide such a letter, the sources said.

V.O. Promsyrioimport, or the Soviet corporation which imported the pipes, asked the pipe mills, including Nippon Steel Corp. and Sumitomo Metal Industries, Ltd., to send representatives to Moscow for talks, the sources said. Mill officials said the mills have not decided whether to send representatives to the Soviet capital. They added, however, that their representatives would have no choice but to visit Moscow in view of the importance of the talks.

Sakhalin Koreans Said Allowed To Visit ROK

OW2105184790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1436 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 21 KYODO—The Soviet Union has basically agreed to allow Koreans living on Sakhalin to return home for family visits on special charter flights, a Japanese parliamentarian said Monday. Shinya Totsuka, a member of a Japan-South Korean joint parliamentarian team for investigation of Sakhalin Koreans, also told reporters that Soviet Red Cross officials promised cooperation in establishing a joint office for the Japan Red Cross and the Korea National Red Cross on the island. Totsuka, a member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, left Japan for Sakhalin on May 14 and returned home Monday.

Japan ruled the southern half of Sakhalin from 1905 to 1945 and forcibly brought thousands of Koreans there. The Koreans were abandoned after the Soviets took over the island following Japan's defeat in World War II. An estimated 43,000 Koreans still live on the island.

Official's Reported Criticism of No Denied

OW1705114290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0915 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 17 KYODO—Japan has denied South Korean press reports that its defense minister criticized President No Tae-u, South Korean Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday. The Japanese Government has conveyed a message indicating its denial through the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo, the officials said.

Speaking with a group of Japanese correspondents in Seoul on Monday, No said he believes Asian countries are opposed to Japan's replacing the United States militarily in East Asia. The South Korean mass media reported Tuesday that Japan's State Minister for Defense Yozo Ishikawa, in a comment on the president's remarks, said he wonders to what extent No understands Japan's defense policy. The Japanese Government has denied the South Korean reports and said that Ishikawa never made such remarks, the South Korean officials said. Japanese officials told the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo that Japan maintains a nonaggressive security policy under the war-renouncing Constitution and that the Japanese people will never allow the Self-Defense Forces to fill a power vacuum in the region, according to the officials.

Kaifu Acknowledges Aggression in World War II

OW2105121890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1137 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu acknowledged Monday that Japan was an aggressor in World War II, saying: "I have never said (the war) was a holy war. I candidly admit there was a fact of aggression." He was replying at a session of the House of Councillors Budget Committee to Yasuko Takemura, a Japan Socialist Party member, who asked his view on the war.

Takemura questioned that budget allocated for expenses of the enthronement ceremony of Emperor Akihito this fall be diverted to assistance to Asian countries Japan invaded during World War II. Kaifu rejected her idea, saying Japan's aid to Asian countries belongs in a different sphere from the enthronement of the emperor and that Japan will continue to cooperate with those countries based on remorse for the past.

Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone told the Diet that it is necessary for the government to realize the fact that Japan has been criticized in the international community as an aggressor in the last world war. Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita told the parliament that there is no denying that there was aggression by Japan in the war. Kaifu's immediate predecessor Sosuke Uno told the Diet that it was a war of aggression by militarism.

Efforts Made on Sihanouk-Hun Sen Meeting

OW2205111990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0707 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 22 KYODO—Japan will try to persuade Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk to attend the scheduled Tokyo meeting with Phnom Penh government premier Hun Sen, Foreign

Ministry sources said Tuesday. The sources said Sihanouk has formally notified the Japanese Government that he will visit Tokyo on June 4-5. Sihanouk, however, is reported not to attend the Tokyo meeting with Hun Sen, due to take place June 4-6. Instead, Sihanouk reportedly plans to have Son Sann, prime minister of the three-party resistance coalition government, attend the meeting on his behalf, the sources said. The sources said if the influential Sihanouk does not attend the meeting, it will lessen its significance.

The Japanese Government has been trying to arrange talks between the leaders of the two warring groups to help end the 11-year Cambodian conflict. The Tokyo meeting was arranged at the suggestion of Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Meanwhile, in Bangkok, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said Tuesday that Vietnam and China will support agreement between Sihanouk and Hun Sen if it is reached in Tokyo. Thach, who made a stopover there on his way home from Europe, told reporters that if Hun Sen accepts Sihanouk's proposal for setting up a supreme national organization consisting of six representatives each from the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government and the anti-Hanoi national government of Cambodia, his country and China will also support it.

Yamaguchi-Led JSP Group Leaves for Beijing

OW1805040490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0339 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 18 KYODO—A Japan Socialist Party (JSP) delegation headed by party Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi left Tokyo on Friday for Beijing for talks with Chinese Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin and other leaders. They are expected to discuss ways of normalizing ties between Japan's largest opposition party and the Chinese Communist Party.

Relations have been at a standstill following the Chinese military crackdown on the pro-democracy movement last June, JSP officials said.

The two sides will also exchange views on Japan's yen loan package to China for 1990-95, which Tokyo has frozen since the crackdown. Their talks will also cover international affairs including Sino-Soviet and North and South Korean relations. The mission will return home May 25 after visiting Xian and Shanghai.

Kanemaru Leaves for Taiwan's Inaugural Ceremony

OW1905055790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 19 KYODO—A Japanese parliamentary group left for Taiwan on Saturday to attend President Li Teng-hui's inaugural ceremony set for Sunday. Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru is among the 31-member group led by Masayuki Fujio, a former education minister. All the delegation members belong to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). The delegation is returning to Tokyo on Sunday evening.

United Arab Emirates President Ends Visit

OW1905055590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0309 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 19 KYODO—United Arab Emirates President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan left Tokyo for home Saturday concluding a weeklong visit to Japan. During the first four days of his stay as a state guest, Zayid met with Emperor Akihito and held talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Direct Round-Trip Flight to Mongolia Planned

OW1805082990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1337 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—A direct round-trip flight to Mongolia from Niigata Prefecture is being authorized for August and applications for the 132 seats will commence next week, organizers said Thursday. It will be the first such direct flight to Mongolia from Japan.

The flight to Ulaanbaatar is scheduled for August 16 from Niigata Airport, with the return flight on August 23, said visiting officials of the Air-Mongol International Department and National Tourist Organization Juulchin. Authorization will be given by the government sectors concerned in June, said the Japanese organizer, a Niigata-Mongolia Friendship group.

Mongolia

Delegation Departs for Visit to South Korea

OW2105194690 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1718 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 21 May (OANA-MONTSAME)—A Mongolian delegation led by MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Deputy Minister for Culture N. Jantsannorob has left today for Seoul.

It members also the leader of the Mongolia-South Korea Society D. Gerel and the President of the Mongolian Culture Fund H. Gaadan.

According to the MPR Ministry of Culture, the visit to the Republic of Korea paves the way towards Mongolian for August of this year. [sentence as received]

The delegation is accompanied by a group of art workers such as the people's actress and MPR state prize winning singer N. Norobbandzad, also MPR state prize winning movie actress N. Subd, as well as performers from the MPR State Folk Song and Dance Company. Another member of the visiting party is a college student T. Binderya, the winner of Mongolia's first ever beauty contest held in 1989.

Mongol-Chinese Friendship Society Reorganizes

OW2105191090 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1716 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 21 May (OANA-MONTSAME)—A reorganizational meeting of the members of the Mongol-Chinese Friendship Society [MCFS] has taken place here today.

It discussed and approved the draft rules of the MCFS and elected its Presidium of 25 members.

Lhamsurengiyn Enebish, chairman of the Executive Board of the Ulaanbaatar Hural of People's Deputies (mayor), was unanimously elected the chairman of the MCFS central board.

The participants in the meeting also approved the plan of action for this year. It includes, in particular, such undertakings as the organizations of a Chinese language course, holding of Chinese cinema days in Mongolia and exchanges of ehibitions and delegations between the two countries.

Authorities Halt Incoming Freight Consignment

LD2205075490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0706 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar (ADN)—One hundred freight cars with consumer goods have been stopped at the Mongolian-Chinese frontier according to the instructions of the Mongolian authorities. The Buyant cooperative had purchased the freight, including goods in short supply such as soap, cosmetics, jeans, and other clothing as well as electric household appliances, in a special economic zone in the PRC and in Hong from the proceeds made from exporting nonferrous scrap metal.

Ishdorjiyn Jablhant, member of the presidium of the Mongolian Democratic Alliance, told ADN today that the authorities feared that the sought-after import goods could be used by the alliance as propaganda in the election campaign. Therefore the work of Buyant, whose director is a member of the Mongolian Democratic Alliance, was being systematically impeded. The stopping of the Buyat import, the Mongolian Democratic Alliance politican said, was also in contradiction to the Mongolian cooperative law which expressly permitted foreign trade activity with proceeds in convertible currency.

Hural Presidium Decree on Elections Publicized

OW2105231190 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1709 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 21 May (OANA-MONTSAME)—The Presidium of the MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] People's Great Hural [PGH] (national assembly) has made public today its decree on the formation of the Territorial Commission (equivalent to the old central commission) for elections to the People's Great Hural.

Referring to article 15 rpt 15 of the MPR Law on Elections, the PGH Presidium decrees to form this Territorial Commission from persons elected at general meetings of work collectives, primary party and public organizations as well as Army units throughout the country.

Thus, the commission membering 25 rpt 25 people is headed by Jugderdemidiyn Gurragchaa, MPR pilot-cosmonaut, deputy chairman of the PGH and chairman of the MPR Society for Assistance to Defence. His deputy in the commission is an MPR merited teacher, Professor Baytadzagiyn Hurmetbek , the secretary-senior expert of the PGH Presidium Bumbuugiyn Sharbandi. [sentence as received]

As a MONTSAME correspondent was told at the PGH Presidium, the commission also involves representatives of new parties which came into being in Mongolia over the past half a year. They are from the Mongolian Social-Democratic Party (MSDP) Yadamyn Balgansuren, section head at the Informatics [as received] Centre of the MPR Academy of Science, from the Mongolian Party of National Progress (MPNP) Dashpuntsagiyn Ganbold, an expert at the Ministry of Justice and Arbitration, Dambiyn Dorligjab, member of the Coordination Council of the Mongolian Democratic Party (these three parties formed the so called "coalition of democratic forces" for participating in the elections), and from the Party of Free Labour (PFI) Lhamaagiyn Tsendsuren, lecturer at the Ulaanbaatar Polytechnical Institute.

As these parties are to be officially registered in the coming few days, the PGH Presidium decree does not mention party affiliations of their representatives in the Election Commission.

The ruling Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] is represented by T. Oold, member of the Presidium and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee.

The elections to the hurals of people's deputies of all levels from provincial district ones to the PGH are slated for 29 rpt 29 July of this year.

North Korea

DPRK Diplomat Denies Kim Il-song To Retire

OW2205081090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Beijing, May 22 KYODO—A high-level North Korean diplomat here denied speculation Tuesday that North Korean President Kim Il-song might relinquish power to his son, Kim Chong-il, before the first meeting of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly to be held Thursday.

Pae Yong-chae, minister at the North Korean Embassy in Beijing, said in an interview with the foreign press the speculation is "groundless."

There was speculation in early March that Kim Il-song might retire and hand over power to Kim Chong-il, heir apparent, after his 78th birthday on April 15 and that the younger Kim would be elected president at the first session of parliament after the elections on April 22 of the Supreme People's Assembly, North Korea's legislative body.

Pae confirmed that North Korea will hand over the remains of five American soldiers missing during the 1950-1953 Korean war to the United States through U.S. congressmen at the truce village of Panmunjom at 11 A.M. on May 28.

North Korea will unearth the remains of other American soldiers missing in action depending on the U.S. attitude, he said.

Pae denied the possibility of a visit to the U.S. by Ho Tam, Politbureau member of the Korea Workers' Party, saying that although he has been invited to an international conference there the conditions for his entry to the country are not yet appropriate.

The North Korean diplomat said dialogue between Seoul and Pyongyang will not resume because of the South Korean authorities' "suppression of the pro-democracy movement."

Pae also denied speculation that North Korea may release two Japanese seamen detained since 1983 on espionage charges in the fall of this year.

He said the settlement of the issue depends on the Japanese Government and demanded the return of a North Korean who stowed away on the Japanese sailors' ship.

Engineer of South Ship Defects to North

SK2105065190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0601 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Mun Chin-kuk, 31, an engineer of the Evangelical Ship "Hanna" belonging to the Seoul Immanuel Missionary Society of South Korea, came over to the northern half of the country.

Hailing from Songnae-ri, Unnam Myon, Muan County, South Cholla Province, he lived in Yongdang-tong, Mokpo, South Cholla Province, before his defection. There are his mother and brothers in South Korea.

After leaving a middle school halfway for family reason, he did odd jobs at an electrical company, a laundry and a pelagic fishing boat, while making self-study, and served as an engineer of the evangelical ship belonging to the Seoul Immanuel Missionary Society from last year to work for the society in Southeast Asia and other regions.

Stating that he came over to the North because he could not reconcile himself to the structural contradictions of the society in the South, he said, while listening to radio of the North, he got to understand and gradually long for the socialist system of the North where goodness prevails in the society and all the people enjoy a stable life.

I took the opportunity overseas to come over to the DPRK where justice and truth are valued and a good policy is in force, he said.

Expressing joy at the realisation of his desire to come over to the North, Mun Chin-kuk said that he will do his best to contribute to the cause of national reunification in the embrace of the DPRK.

Reunification Group Issues Appeal 18 May

SK2105062090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0529 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea (CILRECO), in an appeal on May 18 to the organizations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people and to all the progressive peaceloving forces of the world which support the Korean people's cause of independent and peaceful national reunification, called upon them to put pressure on the South Korean authorities to pull down the concrete wall.

Recalling that an international fact-finding team had recently made an on-site verification of whether the concrete wall exists or not in the area South of the Military Demarcation Line of Korea and clearly confirmed that the wall dividing the Korean nation actually exists there, the appeal said:

CILRECO appeals to all the forces which support its activities for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea to take various steps so that all countries in the world May widely introduce and propagandize the investigation results of the international fact-finding team on the concrete wall, put pressure on the South Korean authorities to pull down the concrete wall, a product of their separatist policy against the trend of our times, and loud voices supporting the cause of Korea's peaceful reunification May ring out from among the world people.

CILRECO appeals to the progressive peaceloving forces of all countries in the world to inform their governments, parliaments, political parties and social organizations of the content of the report of the international fact-finding team on the results of its investigation into the concrete wall and actively contact them so as to make them demand that the South Korean authorities accede to the proposal for the removal of the wall of division and a genuine North-South dialogue for reunification.

Front Chairman Denounces 'Government' Power

SK2105055790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The director of the worker-peasant department of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon), in a statement published on May 19 on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju popular uprising, stressed that the South Korean working masses would fight it out in the van of the struggle for inheriting the spirit of the righteous May 18 action and thereby realize the desire of the May resistance at any cost.

According to Radio Voice of National Salvation, he charged that the No Tae-u "regime" which came into being with an advertisement "an era of ordinary people" has suppressed the vital demands of ordinary people by violence and bled the working masses white by murderous hunger wages and, not content with it, is now slaughtering the flesh and blood of the working masses by "government" power.

He said:

The struggle for inheriting the spirit of the May 18 is a struggle to put an end to the infernal society of South Korea and win genuine freedom, democracy and vital rights of the people of all walks of life including our toiling masses.

The spring struggle for a higher pay this year remains still an unerupted volcano.

The enemy now fears that it will erupt along with the struggle for inheriting the spirit of the May 18.

Our labouring masses have already focused on the struggle for inheriting the spirit of the righteous May 18 action and lighted the train of the struggle for a higher pay.

Today when students and patriotic people of broad strata have risen in the struggle for inheriting the spirit of the righteous May 18 action our 10 million labouring people will be all out in the strike for getting their own share of earning at all businesses and enterprises throughout South Korea and thus drive the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule and No Tae-u's fascist rule to bankruptcy.

Our labouring masses who determinedly rose in the struggle for a wage hike must bring down a heavy sledgehammer on the No Tae-u "regime" and expel the United States from this land through their struggle against the "Democratic Liberal Party" and the United States.

Halt to Suppression of South Workers Urged

SK2105113990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The world Federation of Trade Unions resolutely demands an immediate release of all the arrested workers and unionists, a halt to the suppression of South Korean workers, the recognition of the "National Council of Trade Unions" as a legitimate organization, respect for South Korean workers' economic and social demands and trade union rights and guarantee of democratic liberties, said the WFTU Secretariat in a statement published on May 16.

Recalling that the South Korean authorities harshly suppressed the strikes of workers at the Hyundai Heavy Industries and of the employees of the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) and protests of workers from different businesses, arrested hundreds of workers and more than 250 unionists and schemed to penalize them, the statement said:

The No Tae-u "regime" seeks in this an aim of defusing its serious economic crisis and ensuring profits of monopolies by violating the basic rights of trade unions and harshly suppessing the democratic liberties of workers under the cloak of "industrial peace."

The WFTU calls upon the working people and trade union organizations of all countries to express full support and firm solidarity for the struggle of the South Korean workers and the just struggle of the "National Council of Student Representatives" of South Korea.

Response to Revolutionary Opera Exchange Demanded

SK2205113090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—The acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a telephone message sent to the president of the South Korean Red Cross a few days ago urged the South side to take a decisive step to accept the revolutionary opera "The Flower Girl" and respond to the working-level contact, instead of avoiding it, taking issue with the programme of the art performance which does not offer any problem.

This manifests our sincere efforts and stand to solve as early as possible both the question of the exchange of art troupes and home-visiting groups that was not carried into practice though the two sides reached an agreement last year, and the question of full-dress Red Cross talks, stresses MINJU CHOSON today.

Recalling that the South side has kept mum about the telephone message of ours, the news analyst says:

The working-level contact is a rational form for discussing and solving in a short time the questions put on the agenda and the exchange of the second art troupes and home-visiting groups is what the South side also has called for.

As for the revolutionary opera "The Flower Girl" with which the South side is taking issue, it is a national opera which depicts the miserable life of our nation under the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists in the past and calls upon the people to turn out in the noble struggle for national liberation against the Japanese imperialists.

The opera the keynote of which is to do away with the misfortunes and sufferings of the family of Kkotpun conforms with the principle of Red Cross whose basic mission is to alleviate the sufferings of the people.

There is no ground for the South side to shelve the exchange of the second art troupes and home-visiting groups, shunning the working-level contact.

If art troupes and home-visiting groups are to be exchanged and full-dress Red Cross talks resumed, it is necessary to resume the working-level contact, first of all, as demanded by us.

The South side must not drag on the time but respond at an early date to our demand for working-level contact.

Japan Holds Symposium on Korean Peninsula Issue

SK1905152090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 17 (KNS-KCNA)—A symposium on the Korean question was held under the co-sponsorship of the Centre of the Shizuoka Prefectural Council of Trade Unions of Japan and the Shizuoka Prefectural People's Council for Japan-Korea Friendship.

Speaking at the symposium, chairman of the Centre Akira Kikuta underscored the importance of a correct understanding of the Korean question at present.

A resolution was adopted there supporting the struggle of the South Korean people for national reunification and protesting the unreasonable ruling of the No Tae-u fascist clique on coed Yim Su-kyong.

A lecture on the subject "current situation on the Korean peninsula" was given at the end of the symposium.

Meanwhile, the 10th general meeting of the Hokkaido People's Council for Japan-Korea Solidarity was held.

The meeting adopted a decision to set up a rescue centre for the release of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and coed Yim Su-kyong.

DPRK Red Cross Telephone Message Sent

SK2205060890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0528 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the DPRK, today sent a telephone message to Kim Sang-hyop, president of the South Korean Red Cross.

Notifying the latter that two liaison officials of the North will be sent to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at three P.M. May 23 (Wednesday), to convey a letter of Han Pil-hwa addressed to Kim Sang-hyop at her request, the message asked the South Korean side to take a corresponding measure.

DPRK Denounces U.S. 'Air Strike Exercises'

NODONG SINMUN's View

SK2205054890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists have almost every day staged air strike exercises on an unprecedented scale to increase the "real war capacity" such as bombing exercise, mid-air refuelling exercise, electronic warfare exercise and "commando" exercise by bringing formations of planes of various types, AWACS [Airbone Warning and Control System] and refuelling tanks from overseas bases to the South Korean air since early May.

This suggests that they intend to send numerous planes from aggression bases in the Asia-Pacific region to the Korean peninsula at a time and paralyse our radar and communication systems with a wholesale electronic jamming "in case of emergency" and mount a surprise attack on the major objects in the Northern half of Korea, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst says:

It was rare to be seen that the U.S. imperialists staged such all-out air strike exercises with the massive mobilization of warplanes.

Following the "Team Spirit 90" joint military maneuvers, they are holding such frantic war games when we put forward various proposals for peace and peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula and are making efforts to carry them into effect. This is an unpardonable challenge to our peace overtures and a criminal act aggravating the situation of Korea.

This clearly shows once again that the U.S. imperialists do not want detente and peace on the Korean peninsula but follow the line of a showdown of strength, the line of war, and that their talk about "cutback" of U.S. troops in South Korea is nothing but a trick to mock public opinion at home and abroad.

There is no change in the Korea strategy of the U.S. imperialists. According to their aggressive Asia-Pacific strategy, they intend to keep hold on South Korea as an anti-communist bridgehead and nuclear forward base for attack on the DPRK and other countries and start the second war of aggression in Korea with it as the springboard.

Their reckless war exercises go against the international trend of detente.

Pyongyang Issues Protest

SK2105213290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The Pacific Airforce Command of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces May 17 mobilized a number of overseas-based fighter-bombers, pursuit-assault planes and refuelling tankers to stage provocative joint strike exercises against the North in the sky above South Korea, according to military souces.

A total of 300 fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes, refuelling tankers and airborne warning and control planes and reconnaissance planes were involved in these provocative exercises which were staged twice.

On the other hand, the U.S. imperialists sent formations of "F-16," "F-15," "A-6," "FA-18" and "OA-10" fighter-bombers, assault planes, pursuit-assault planes and airborne warning and control planes from overseas bases to the sky above Kunsan, Anmyon Island and West Sea from about 12 to 17 hours on May 18 to stage aerial exercises simulating a first-strike at targets in the strategic depth and in the inland of the northern half of Korea.

They also deployed formations of different types of fighter-bombers and refuelling tankers in the Kunsan and Osan airforce bases under the U.S. airforce stationed in South Korea.

The south korean puppets massively mobilized puppet army infantry units, planes and warships on May 20 and staged joint strike exercises against the North on the ground and in the air and sea under the cover of flying corps and mobilized large numbers of tanks of a motorized combined unit of the puppet army on the same day to madly stage a mobile drill simulating an attack upon the North, stirring up a war atmosphere.

Reportage of WWPUS Delegation 12-Day Visit

Concludes Visit

SK1905112190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Workers' World Party of the United States [WWPUS] headed by Chairman of its National Committee Sam Marky left here on May 19, concluding its 12-day visit to Korea.

Prior to the departure, members of the delegation were interviewed by a KCNA reporter.

The head of the delegation said that he witnessed during the visit developed looks everywhere. Korea has modernly-equipped factories and neat and clean public service facilities, he added.

The Workers' World Party of the United States [WWPUS] and the Workers' Party of Korea will always wage a joint struggle against imperialism for the commonness of their views, he stated.

Saying that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique ignited the barbaric war of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on June 25, 1950, he stressed: Back home, we will conduct brisk activities against war and do what little we can for the reunification of Korea.

He said the U.S. troops must get out of South Korea at once.

Expressing invariable active support to the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo advanced by President Kim Il-song, he maintained that Korea must be reunified in accordance with the reunification proposal advanced by the great president.

Members of the delegation said that, though many countries are undergoing social throes, the people in Korea are bringing their talent and happiness into full bloom, as the Workers' Party of Korea is staunch in ideology and steadfast in its principles.

Letter Sent to Kim Il-song

SK2005090590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0827 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 20 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a letter of thanks from Sam Marky, chairman of the National Committee of the Workers World Party of the United States [WWPUS], leaving Korea.

The letter says:

It is a great honour for all of us that you personally received us and arranged comradely talks.

You, through official talks and a luncheon, helped us get deeper understanding of the struggle of your party and greatly inspired us to intensify our struggle in the United States to get the U.S. forces withdrawn from Korea.

The question of Korea's reunification is an issue deserving primary attention at the present juncture; our party will do its utmost for the reunification of your country.

The warm and friendly talks between our two parties proved that the two parties share the common view in the struggle against imperialism and for socialism.

We hope that the bonds between our two parties will continue to strengthen in the future.

We wish you continued good health and success in your work.

Kim Chong-il Receives Thanks

SK2005090690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0831 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 20 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter of thanks from Sam Marky, chairman of the National Committee of the Workers World Party of the United States [WWPUS], leaving Korea.

The letter says:

The reception by Comrade President Kim Il-song made us more deeply understand your party's struggle and inspired us to intensify our struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea in the future.

The reunification of Korea is a global issue of primary importance and we will make every possible effort for it.

The warm and friendly talks between our two parties showed that we have common views in many aspects in the struggle against imperialism and for socialism.

We will make continued efforts to strengthen our solidarity in the future.

We wish you continued good health and success in your noble work.

Soviet General Grebenyuk Views 'Concrete Wall'

SK2205052490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—The concrete wall exists actually, said Lt-Gen. Vladimir Grebenyuk, head of the visiting delegation of the general political department of the army and naval fleet of the USSR, who is deputy director of the department.

After seeing the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique in the area South of the Military Demarcation Line, he said that it is out of common sense to assert that this concrete wall is an "anti-tank barricade" and this only vividly reveals their aggressive nature.

He stressed:

We support Comrade Kim Il-song's proposal for reunification.

If Korea is to be reunified, the U.S. forces must be withdrawn from South Korea, first of all. And the reunification of the country must be realized by the Korean people themselves.

The delegation arrived in Pyongyang on May 14. It visited Mangyongdae, the victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum and units of the Korean People's Army to which Comrades Ok Pong-nin and Yun Pyong-kwon belong.

Speaking at a soldiers' meeting of the general political department of the Korean People's Army which was held in welcome of the delegation, the Soviet Army general said: "I assure you that the Soviet people and army will as ever remain a dependable ally of Korea and comrades-in-arms standing together on the outposts in defence of the gains of socialism."

Reportage of Tokyo Chongnyon Meeting 21 May

35th Anniversary Commemorated

SK2205110690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 21 (KNS-KCNA)—A Central meeting was held in Tokyo Monday to observe the 35th anniversary of the formation of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

Pak Chae-no, vice-chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing committee, read out at the meeting a congratulatory message sent by the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song to the chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the formation of the Chongnyon.

A silk banner in the joint name of the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council, silk banners and messages from organizations in the homeland including the C.C., the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and a message of the C.C., "the South Korean National Democratic Front" were conveyed at the meeting.

Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee, made a report there.

He elaborated on the solicitude shown by the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il for Chongnyon officials and compatriots on the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon.

The formation of Chongnyon was a historical event which brought about a fundamental change in the life of Koreans in Japan and the development of their movement, the reporter said. With Chongnyon formed, the movement of Korean residents in Japan put an end to the time of vicissitudes to follow the straight road of victory upholding the banner of chuche. And compatriots in Japan could firmly defend the national dignity and honor as citizens of the independent and sovereign state and enjoy a genuine life in the worthwhile patriotic work for the homeland and the nation, he stressed.

The reporter said that the course covered by Chongnyon for 35 years was not a smooth road. The U.S. and

Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets, he recalled, regarded Chongnyon as a thorn in their flesh from the first day of its formation and continuously made all their efforts to undermine and repress the organization and obstruct our compatriot's patriotic activities.

The association, greatly encouraged by the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear leader and loving care of homeland, daringly overcame manifold trials and difficulties to glorify the 35 year long patriotic course with victories, thus registering proud feats for the homeland and the nation, Yi Chin-kyu said.

Saying it is the unanimous desire and will of the whole nation to mark the 1990 as a decade of accomplishing the cause of national reunification, the reporter underlined that all the Koreans in Japan should be actively mobilized to realize a pan-national conference on August 15 at Panmunjom, and make a greater contribution to the cause of national reunification this year, a significant year.

At the meeting members of the Korean Childrens Union in Japan mounted the platform to warmly congratulate the meeting.

Read out at the meeting were congratulatory messages from figures of different strata and organizations in Japan and other countries and overseas Koreans' organizations.

Congratulatory speeches were made there by Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party, Shuhachi Inoue, director general of the board of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea and others.

Letters of thanks of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee to Marshal Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il were read out at the meting.

That day the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon arranged a reception in celebration of the 35th anniversary of its formation.

Letter Sent to Kim Il-song

SK2205045290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—The great leader Marshal Kim Il-song on May 21 received a letter of thanks from the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon.

Extending highest glory and warm thanks to the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song who founded the unique idea of the movement of Koreans overseas already long ago, formed Chongnyon under its rays and led the movement of Koreans in Japan to victory and shows all loving care for the Chongnyon functionaries and Koreans in Japan, the letter says:

The 25th of May, 1955 is a historical day when the birth of a chuche-type organization of Koreans overseas was solemnly proclaimed and a radical turn was brought about in the work and life of Koreans in Japan.

With the formation of Chongnyon, the movement of Koreans in Japan which had been undergoing serious turns and twists has been able to advance along a road of victory as a true national patriotic movement and the Koreans in Japan have come to firmly defend their honour and pride of being full-fledged citizens overseas of an independent and sovereign state and demonstrate to the whole world their patriotic resourcefulness and mettle.

Chongnyon which has advanced under the benevolent care of you the great leader has grown to be a dignified organization of citizens overseas of the DPRK, an indestructible patriotic organization which has firmly built up its organizations at all levels in an alien land and closely rallied Koreans in Japan from all walks of life including traders and industrialists, youths and women under the banner of the chuche idea.

The Koreans in Japan who had once been subjected to all maltreatment and humiliation as a people of a stateless, ruined nation, are now firmly defending all their democratic national rights, cherishing the inviolable national dignity and honour as citizens overseas of the republic, a genuine people's sovereign state.

Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan are also enforcing an unprecedented, well-regulated democratic national education and bringing the national culture and art of chuche into full bloom among the Korean expatriates in the world and are proudly carrying forward the blood of loyal patriots, the blood of the nation, amid praises of the world people.

They, as proud masters of chuche Korea, a fort of anti-imperialism and independence and the cause of socialism, are making a meaningful contribution to the development and prosperity of the homeland and to the cause of national reunification and are enjoying a proud, worthwhile life, glorifying the homeland and the nation in the international arena, too,.

The footmarks of victory left by Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan in the course of repelling the suppression and persecutions by home and foreign reactionaries at every step and with all the successes of Chongnyon which is praised as a model of the movement of Koreans overseas in the world are associated with the wise leadership and warm love of you the great leader.

We will trust and follow only you the great leader and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il without the slightest vacillation in face of any moves of the reactionaries at home and abroad, devote all our patriotic zeal for the development and prosperity of the priceless socialist homeland, defend the Chongnyon organizations and firmly safeguard all democratic national rights of Koreans in Japan including DPRK citizenship.

We will add brilliance to this year, a significant year marking the 45th anniversary of national liberation and the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon, as a year of victory when a new change will be brought about in the movement of Koreans in Japan, and thus repay the deep love and expectations of you the great leader with loyalty.

In conclusion, the letter sincerely wishes Marshal Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Kim Chong-il Receives Letter

SK2205051490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A letter of thanks came to dear Comrade Kim Chong-il on May 21 from the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon (May 25, 1955).

The letter extends highest glory and warm thanks to Comrade Kim Chong-il who is leading Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan along a road of victory and showing paternal love and solicitude for them.

It says:

With the formation of Chongnyon the movement of Koreans in Japan has been able to advance along a straight path to victory as a genuine national patriotic movement on the track of chuche under the guidance of the outstanding leader, and the Koreans in Japan could display to the whole world their national dignity and honour of being proud masters of an independent and sovereign state.

Busy as you are with untiring activities to carry forward and accomplish the cause of chuche, you the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il have not forgotten even a moment the Chongnyon functionaries and Koreans in Japan, an alien land, have clearly indicated the direction to be followed by them in each period and their honorable tasks and showed concrete ways of carrying them out.

Your loving care is also felt in the large amount of educational aid fund and stipends annually sent from the homeland and at the places of honour where children of Koreans, who were born and are growing up in Japan, a foreign land, sing and dance of their happiness, looking up to the fatherly leader Marshal Kim Il-song, and pose for a photograph with him.

As there are the homeland of chuche which has been built up as a fort of anti-imperialism and independence and socialism in the East, in Asia, and the organization of Chongnyon which is making a long drive as the bosom of the mother representing the homeland under the kind care of the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song and you the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il the Koreans in Japan who had been the most miserable sufferers in history in the past are now displaying to the whole world their honour and pride of being full-fledged citizens overseas of an independent and sovereign state.

The letter further says:

Upholding the teachings of you the dear leader, we will more vigorously accelerate the modelling of Chongnyon on the chuche idea, firmly build up the Chongnyon organization into a mighty patriotic organization deeply rooted among broad sections of compatriots and well bring up the younger generation to be dependable heirs who would carry forward with fortitude the blood of loyalists, the blood of patriots in the movement of Koreans in Japan.

We will resolutely oppose the undisguised anti-DPRK, anti-Chongnyon moves of the reactionaries at home and abroad, firmly defend the honour of being citizens of the DPRK and all national rights of Koreans in Japan and further strengthen and develop the democratic national education of children of our compatriots.

We will push ahead as an all-compatriot movement with the vigorous nationwide struggle to frustrate the "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and the puppets, pull down the barrier between the North and the South and open the door for national reunification, render every support and encouragement to the South Korean people in their struggle for independence, democracy and reunification and unremittingly carry on activities for strengthening international solidarity for our cause of reunification.

Thus, we will make an active contribution to the cause of the century for making the 1990s a historical decade of achieving national reunification through the founding of the democratic confederal republic of Koryo, the letter notes.

It sincerely wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Chongnyon Chairman, ANC Official Meet in Tokyo

SK1905113190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Tokyo May 18 (KNS-KCNA)—Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), met and had a friendly conversation with the chief delegate of the African National Congress [ANC] of South Africa in Tokyo when the latter paid a courtesy call on the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon on May 16.

The chief delegate told him that the congress supports the Korean people in their struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Death of ROK Student Demonstrator Reported

SK2205063290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0506 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A rally of students and citizens to inherit the fighting spirit of martyr Sin Chang-ho, a student of Taeyu College of Technology, who fell a victim to the brutal suppression by the No Tae-u fascist clique on his way to Kwangju to participate in the inaugural ceremony of the fourth "Chondaehyop", and denounce the violent "regime" was held in the mortuary of the hospital of Chonnam University, Kwangju, on May 21, according to a report.

At the rally, upwards of 1,000 students said that the death of Sin Chang-ho was a tragedy caused by the violence of the No Tae-u "regime" in trying to block the peaceful inaugural ceremony of "Chondaehyop" at its initial stage, and strongly demanded that the "home minister" and the "director of the Security Planning Board" immediately resign.

The citizens and students guarded the body of Sin Chang-ho by waging a fierce battle against the fascist clique's inhuman attempt to whisk it away.

More than 500 students are picketing around the mortuary of the hospital.

Kim Il-song's Work on Role of Youth Published

SK1905044190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—The Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House brought out "Young People Should Be Vanguard and Shock-Brigade in Socialist Construction", a collection of works of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The collection carries the full texts or excerpts of 34 classical works of President Kim Il-song including historical reports, speeches and talks on enhancing young people's role as pioneers on all fronts of our socialist construction.

Works contained in it stress that young people, the successor to the cause of our revolution, should creditably discharge the role of the vanguard and shock-brigade in socialist construction.

President Kim Il-song in his works said that whether young people truly play a big role in social development or not depends on how they are guided, educated and trained.

The works stress that the young people should have a steadfast stand for unconditionally and thoroughly defending and implementing the party's line and policy, firmly believing in and following it in any storm and trial.

Reportage of Afghanistan Delegation Visit

Kim Il-song Receives Delegation

SK2105112690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Ministry of Mines and Industries of the Republic of Afghanistan led by its minister Muhammad Eshaq Kawa.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Pang Tae-yul and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Afghan Embassy here.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

A gift was presented to him by the guests.

Gift Presented to Kim Chong-il

SK2105112490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the visiting delegation of the Ministry of Mines and Industries of the Republic of Afghanistan led by Minister Muhammad Eshaq Kawa.

The head of the delegation handed it to an official concerned.

Ho Tam Meets Angolan Delegation

SK2105213090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Ho Tam, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, today met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Agostino Neto Higher Party School of Angola headed by Benisio Barreto Neto.

Vice-Director of the Kim Il-song Higher Party School Yi Su-kun was present there.

DPRK Journalists Leave Pyongyang for China

SK1905105990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Korean Journalists Union headed by Choe Yong-sam, first vice-chairman of its Central Committee, and a delegation of the Academy of Social Science headed by Chong Song-mu, vice-president of the academy, left Pyongyang today by air for China.

Choe Tae-pok Meets Chinese Women's Group

SK2105061190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0527 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Sunday met and had a friendly talk with a Chinese women's delegation headed by Guan Tao, member of the Standing Committee of the All-China Women's Federation and member of its secretariat at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Present there was vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Democratic Women's Union Kang Kwan-son.

Kim Il-song Receives Chinese Youth League Group

SK2105113290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Communist Youth League of China headed by Xiao Dongsheng, editor-in-chief of the Chinese Youth Magazine.

Present there were secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Choe Tae-pok, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea Choe Yong-hae and charge d'affairs ad interim of the Chinese Embassy here Chiang Zhengcai.

The members of the delegation presented a bouquet of flowers to President Kim Il-song and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and had conversations with the guests in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The guests presented him with a gift.

Chong Chun-ki Meets PRC Delegations

SK2105213190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Chong Chun-ki today met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the Ministry of Water Resources of China led by its Vice-Minister Niu Maosheng.

Yi Kon-il, director of the Hydro-Meteorological Service, and officials of the Chinese Embassy here were present there.

Chinese, Pyongyang Youth Friendship Soiree Held

SK2205053890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A friendship soiree between young people of Pyongyang and members of the delegation of the Communist Youth League of China was held at the Central House of Youth Monday evening.

Present there were functionaries of the League of Socialist Working Youth and young men and women in Pyongyang and members of the delegation headed by editor-in-chief of the Chinese youth magazine XIAO DONGSHEN.

Speeches were exchanged there.

Then the participants deepened the feelings of friendship, singing songs of the two countries and dancing together.

Earlier, they saw a Korean film.

Friendship Group Leaves for Visit to China

SK2205111790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Nampo Municipal Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association led by Chong Son-to, vice-chairman of the Nampo Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, left here today to visit China.

Tribute Paid to Ho Chi Minh Centenary

SK1905102990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates an article to the centenary of the birth of Comrade Ho Chi Minh, a distinguished leader of the working class and people of Vietnam and one of the prominent figures of the international communist movement.

Noting that Comrade Ho Chi Minh maintained steadfast anti-imperialist spirit and stand and devoted all his life to the struggle against the domination and plunder by imperialists and for the national independence and people's freedom and liberation, the author of the article says:

After the Democratic Republic of Vietnam was founded, he, taking the heavy duties of the party and state, led to victory the all-people struggle against foreign aggressors who intruded the country again. And when the U.S. imperialist aggressors invaded, he organized and led the Vietnamese people's anti-U.S. national salvation resistance to liberate the southern part of the country while defending the northern part and to achieve its peaceful reunification.

Comrade Ho Chi Minh was not only a staunch revolutionary and patriot who dedicated his all to the country, people and revolution, but also a true internationalist who conducted energetic activitiodrer the victory of the world people's cause of independence against imperialism.

He was a close friend of the Korean people. He made energetic efforts to strengthen the revolutionary unity and class solidarity between the parties and peoples of Korea and Vietnam in the common struggle against aggression of foregin imperialism and for the establishment of national sovereignty and for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism.

He deepened intimacy with the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song through several meetings with him and invariably and resolutely supported the Korean people's cause of justice.

In his lifetime he stressed that Vietnam must not fail to follow the road of socialism, the party must tighten bonds with the people and raise its leadership role, the Army must serve as armed forces of the party and people and the rising generation must be well reared as successors to the revolution. His intention is being materialized on the soil of Vietnam.

The article expresses the belief that, in defiance of imperialists' anti-socialist moves, the Vietnamese people with a glorious tradition of struggle will successfully build a socialist society in Vietnam which was desired by their leader Comrade Ho Chi Minh by fulfilling his testament.

Nepalese Chemical Industry Group Meets Officials

SK2205052790 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0417 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kim Hwan today met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the chemical industry of Nepal headed by Knilendra N. Rana, member of the Royal Nepal Academy of Science and Technology and special assistant in charge of technology of the Royal Council.

Vice-Minister of Chemical Industry Yi Sun-yol was present.

Kim Pok-sin Meets Thai Businessman

SK2205044090 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0418 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin today met and had a conversation in a friendly atmosphere with the delegation of the High-Tech Logistics Resources Ltd. of Thailand headed by its general director T. N. al-Mustafa .

Kang Hui-won Attends Iran 'Friendship' Reception

SK1905044990 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0441 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—The Korea-Iran Friendship Association arranged a reception at the Ongnyu Restaurant on May 18 on the occasion of "Week of Korea-Iran Friendship".

Present on the occasion were Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won, chairman of the DPRK Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee and Chairman of the Korea-Iran Friendship Association Chong Ha-chol, and other officials concerned.

Invited there were Hassan Dabir, Iranian ambassador to Korea, and his embassy officials, members of the government cultural and friendship delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran and other Iranian guests.

Speeches were exchanged at the reception.

Iranian Parliamentary Delegation Arrives 19 May

SK2005085990 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0825 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 20 (KCNA)—A parliamentary friendship delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Kamel Kherkhah Ghiel [spelling of name as received], member of parliament and head of the Islamic Guidance and Cultural Commission of the Consultative Assembly, arrived in Pyongyang Saturday by air.

It was met by deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, and Yi Song-ho, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and Hassan Dabir, Iranian ambassador to Korea.

The standing committee of the SPA arranged a party for the delegation in the evening.

SPA Chairman Meets Iranian Committee

SK2105050390 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0456 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), met and had a friendly talk Sunday at the Mansudae Assembly Hall with the parliamentary friendship delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Kamel Kherkhah Ghiel, member of parliament and head of the Islamic Guidance and Cultural Commission of the Consultative Assembly, when the latter paid a courtesy call on him.

Present on the occasion were Yi Song-ho, vice-chairman of the committee for cultural relations with foreign countries and deputy to the SPA, and Hassan Dabir, Iranian ambassador to Korea.

Meeting Marks Jordan Independence Anniversary

SK2205112090 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1026 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A meeting was held here today to observe the 44th anniversary of the independence of Jordan.

Present at the meeting were Pak Tong-chon, vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Jordan Friendship Association, and other officials concerned and working people in the city.

Speeches were made there before a congratulatory letter to the king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was adopted.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Cameroon's Biya

SK1905111190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings to President Paul Biya on the national day of the Republic of Cameroon.

The message noted the Cameroonian people, under the leadership of the president, have made a great progress in the work for national unity and stability of the country and economic rebuilding.

Wishing the president greater success in his work for the independent development of the country and accomplishment of the cause of nation's resurrection, it expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will further strengthen and develop.

Yi Chong-ok Speaks at Party for Ghanaian Group

SK1905050990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—The government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea arranged a party at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Friday for the visiting government delegation of the Republic of Ghana.

Speaking at the party, Vice-President Yi Chong-ok expressed the belief that the Korea visit of Daniel Francis Annan will contribute to developing in depth the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Ghana and deepening mutual understanding and trust.

Noting that both Korea and Ghana are striving to build an independent and prosperous new society, supporting and cooperating with each other in the same ranks of the Non- aligned Movement, he said:

Today the Ghanaian people under the leadership of respected His Excellency Chairman Jerry John Rawlings and the Provisional National Defence Council are endeavouring to implement new democratic steps, adhering to the anti-imperialist, independent policy.

They have achieved many successes in the work to restore the economy and improve the people's living standard by turning to account home resources and people's efforts under the slogan of self-reliance.

Noting that Ghana, one of the sponsor nations of the Non-aligned Movement, is striving to defend the principle and idea of this movement and achieve the complete liberation of Africa, he said: we highly estimate it.

Speaking next, head of the delegation Daniel Francis Annan, member of the Provisional National Defence Council of the Republic of Ghana, said that the relations between Ghana and the DPRK have deep historical roots for they trace their origin to the founding of the first republic in Ghana.

Ghana is grateful to the DPRK for its mutually beneficial cooperation, especially for its technical assistance, he said, and went on:

Brief as our stay in the DPRK is, we have already seen the great achievements made by the heroic Korean people in their just and legitimate struggle to consolidate socialism, national independence and chajusong under the leadership of the great leader comrade Kim Il-song with the chuche idea as the guiding campass.

Ghana took note with deep interest of the new national reunification proposal advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his New Year Address for 1990.

It is highly important to remove the factors increasing the tension and dividing the Korean peninsula under the fast changing world situation. To do this will accelerate the process of the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The Ghanaian government and people are resolved to actively strive to attain the aim of the Non-aligned Movement and continuously strengthen the mutually beneficial relations with such friendly and non-aligned countries as the DPRK.

Ghana's Leader Sends Gift to Kim Chong-il

SK2205111490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A gift was sent to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Def ence Council of the Republic of Ghana.

It was conveyed to vice-president Yi Chong-ok by Daniel Francis Annan, member of the Provisional National Defence Council of the Republic of Ghana on a visit to Korea.

Malian National Party School Delegation Feted

SK1905051190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] arranged a banquet Friday for the visiting delegation of the Malian National Party School.

In his speech at the banquet, Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, said:

The friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Mali are continuously developing in scope in the spirit agreed upon at the significant meeting and talks between the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade President Moussa Traore.

The Malian People's Democratic Union under the leadership of respected Comrade President Moussa Traore is powerfully mobilizing the people in the struggle to realise the motto of "one people, one purpose, one faith" and build an independent national economy of the country and directing great efforts to the work of strengthening the unity of the people with its fourth congress at hand.

Our party highly estimates the line and policy of the Malian People's Democratic Union for the building of a Malian-type new society and wishes your union greater success in its efforts to implement them. We will actively strive as ever to strengthen and develop the friendship and cooperation with your union and people.

Speaking next, head of the delegation Sidiki Diarra, president of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali, member of the Central Executive Bureau of the Malian People's Democratic Union and director of the National Party School, said:

The experience of the Workers' Party of Korea is of great importance in the strengthening and development of our union.

The Korean people have made brilliant achievements because they have turned out as one under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The Korean people are registering great success every day.

This practically shows that the road chosen by the Workers' Party of Korea under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is most correct.

The Malian party, government and people fully support all the policies advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. Removing the wall bisecting Korea and realising free travel and complete opening between the North and the South is a most essential prerequisite for the reunification of Korea.

Yang Hyong-sop Meets With Malian Visitor

*SK2005084990 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0820 GMT 20 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 20 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, met and had a friendly conversation at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Saturday with Sidiki Diarra, president of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Mali, Korea Friendship Organizations Meet

*SK2105060590 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0525 GMT 21 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Korea-Mali Friendship Association Sunday arranged a meeting with Sidiki Diarra, honorary chairman of the Mali-Korea Friendship Association, and his party at the People's Palace of Culture.

Present there with the guests were Yon Ki-chong, Minister of Finance and chairman of the Korea-Mali Friendship Association; Kim Chae-pong, vice-director of a Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Pak Tong-chun, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and other officials concerned.

The participants underscored the need of further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the peoples and friendship associations of Korea and Mali.

Kim Il-song Receives Malian National Delegation

*SK2205112390 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1024 GMT 22 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the visiting delegation of the Malian National Party School headed by Sidiki Diarra, president of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali and member of the Central Executive Bureau of the Malian People's Democratic Union and director of the school.

Present on the occasion were Secretary Choe Tae-pok and vice-director of a department Kim Chae-pong of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

The head of the delegation conveyed to President Kim Il-song a gift from Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Malian People's Democratic Union and President of the Republic of Mali.

Malian President Sends Gift to Kim Chong-il

*SK2205111190 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1030 GMT 22 May 90*

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A gift came to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from Moussa Traore, general secretary of the Malian People's Democratic Union and president of the Republic of Mali.

The gift was handed to an official concerned by Sidiki Diarra, president of the National Assembly of the Republic of Mali, member of the Central Executive Bureau of the Malian People's Democratic Union and director of the National Party School on a visit to Korea.

Friendship Order Awarded to Mozambican President

SK2205061490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0530 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—A ceremony for awarding DPRK Friendship Order First Class to Joaquim Alberto Chissano, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, took place at the Korean Embassy in Mozambique on May 18.

After receiving the order from the Korean ambassador, the president said in his speech that the order is a great honor for the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and the government and the people of Mozambique.

Pointing to the daily favourable development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Mozambique and Korea, he stressed:

We will continue to develop the traditional friendly relations between Mozambique and Korea through the leadership of the two parties. And we will express due support and solidarity for the struggle of the Korean people who have manifested unsparing solidarity with us in the past. The party, government and people of the People's Republic of Mozambique actively support the Korean people's cause of the struggle to realize the reunification of the country at an early date. Our Mozambican party and government hope reunification of Korea will be carried into practice at an early date, independently and in a peaceful way. We consider the recent new proposal of comrade President Kim Il-song for the reunification of the country a realistic one which is in full accord with the present situation, and fully support it.

The ceremony was followed by a reception.

Tanzanian President Views Kim Il-song Proposal

SK1905044390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—Ali Hassan Mwinyi, president of the United Republic of Tanzania, wished the Korean people greater success in the future, saying that he was pleased at the steady consolidation and development of peculiar socialism in Korea.

When he met the DPRK ambassador to his country on May 15, he stressed that the proposals for Korea's reunification put forward by President Kim Il-song are most reasonable and realistic ones.

He expressed support to the Korean people's cause of national reunificatioin.

Party Leadership Adds 'Shine' to Socialism

SK1905123490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0006 GMT 19 May 90

[NODONG SINMUN 19 May special article: "The Leadership of the Party Is a Basic Factor That Makes It Possible To Construct Our Own Style of Socialism and Make It Shine"]

[Text] The socialism built in our country is a superior socialism of our own style, which our people, who advance under the banner of the great chuche idea, have chosen and have built and managed for themselves.

The socialism of our country has been established on the basis of the chuche idea, which maintains that the popular masses are the masters of everything and decide everything. Nowhere else is there such a socialist system that substantially ensures the people genuine freedom and happiness.

Many factors contribute to building this superior and vital socialism and to making it shine.

The basic and decisive factor among them is the correct leadership of the party and the leader.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: Since a socialist society embodies the intrinsic demands of the working class, socialist and communist construction can be put into practice only by the leadership of the party, the vanguard unit of the working class.

The party of the working class is the guide of a socialist society and the driving force that remodels society in a revolutionary and communist manner.

This being the case, the future of socialism depends on how the party leads socialist construction.

Apart from the leadership of the party, collective superiority, which is unique to socialism, cannot be fully demonstrated nor can the untrodden path leading to communism be successfully pioneered.

On the basis of his scientific elucidation of the status and role of the party in a socialist society, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has led the party's leadership to be further enhanced as more progress is made in socialist construction.

The vitality of our characteristic socialism, which shines in this land, is an outcome of this wise leadership.

In building a superior socialism of our own style and in making it shine, our party has adhered to resolutely defending and embodying the chuche idea as a basic issue.

Since our country's socialist system is chuche-oriented and embodies the chuche idea, defending and embodying the chuche idea are keys to building our own style of socialism and to giving play to its superiority.

Our party has vigorously pushed ahead with the struggle to firmly adhere to the chuche idea and to embody it in all fields of social life.

There is no more important project for our party, a chuche-type party, than defending and implementing the chuche idea.

The wise nature of the leadership of our party, which builds the superior socialism of our own style and makes it shine, is manifest in defending and strengthening the working-class-oriented nature of a socialist society.

A socialist society embodies the intrinsic demands of the working class. The working-class-oriented principle and interests are tantamount to the life of socialism.

The working class is the most independent class, which liberates itself for itself and struggles to become the master of its destiny.

The intrinsic demands of the working class lie in objecting to individual egoism and in completely realizing the independence of the working class on the basis of collectivism. Its demands fully embody the aspirations of the popular working masses. These intrinsic demands of the working class are completely met by making the entire society a working-class-oriented society.

Our party has explained that the course of socialist and communist construction is a process in which class differences disappear and the entire society is turned into a working class society. Based on this and using the working class as a model, our party has set forth the policy of making all members of society members of the working class and has vigorously pushed ahead with this task while strengthening the revolutionary function of the working class.

Thanks to this leadership of the party, non-working class elements have been removed from all fields of social life and the demands and interests of the working class have been thoroughly embodied in the entire society.

Our socialism is a genuine socialism in which the nature of the working class has been further defended, strengthened, and developed.

The wise nature our party's leadership is also manifest in the development of the socialist political, material, and cultural life alike.

The three sectors of social life are political, material, and cultural life. The aim of the working class in carrying out the revolution and building socialism precisely lies in enjoying an independent and creative life in these three fields.

The true superiority of socialist life lies in the people enjoying an independent and creative life in the political, economic, and cultural fields as the masters of the state and society.

People demand an affluent life materially, spiritually, and culturally and at the same time, living and developing with an eternal social and political life, united with each other as the equal masters of society. This is an intrinsic demand of social man.

To develop social life in conformity with the intrinsic demands of social man, man's spiritual, cultural, and political life should be developed in parallel with an affluent material life.

Our party has put forward the policy of developing socialist life in the three fields of social life and has vigorously pushed ahead with the work of remodeling nature, man, and society.

The work of remaking nature, man, and society is aimed at liberating the popular masses from all types of enslavement and shackles and at guaranteeing social, political, material, ideological, and cultural conditions for their independent life. It is a firm guarantee for developing the socialist political, material, and cultural life together.

Paying primary attention to realizing the social and political independence of the popular masses in bringing social life to blossom, our party pushes the work of remodeling nature and man at the same time and correctly combines the work of remaking nature with the work of remodeling society while giving priority to the work of reforming man.

Under the leadership of the party, the three remodeling projects have been dynamically carried out. As a result, the socialist system has been further consolidated; the status and role of the people as the masters of the state and society have been enhanced in the political, economic, cultural, and other fields; and our people have been able to enjoy an independent political life, a sound material life, and a rich ideological and cultural life.

In our country, all people constitute the most solid sociopolitical organic body united in a single-hearted manner with the great leader and the party at the center. Everyone helps and leads each other according to the collective principle of one for all and all for one. Thus, our society has been turned into the most harmonious and united society.

This, which is inconceivable in a capitalist society where the law of the jungle rules and a political life is reactionary, is the greatest pride of our society.

Our people have extricated themsleves from the status of being remote from modern civilization and have developed into the genuine creators of a chuche-oriented socialist culture. They not only lead the healthiest and richest cultural life, but enjoy the most stable life without any anxiety about their material life. Herein lies the decisive superiority of our own socialism.

The wise nature of our party, which builds our own superior socialism and makes it shine, is also manifest in strengthening the main force of the revolution and in enhancing its role in an all-around manner.

A socialist society is built by the (?mobile) function and role of the main force of the revolution and is consolidated and developed on the basis of this function and role.

Therefore, only when the main force of the revolution is strengthened and its role is enhanced in an all-around manner can a socialist society be reliably defended from the maneuvers of all types of enemies at home and abroad and can the boundless vitality and might of a socialist society be unreservedly displayed.

Our party has given primary significance to and has concentrated efforts on implementing the unitary leadership and the revolutionary mass lines by correctly combining them in strengthening the main force of the revolution and increasing its role in an all-around manner.

Only when the unitary leadership of the party and the revolutionary mass lines are correctly combined and implemented can socialism remove bureaucratism and can the most democratic society, in which everything is carried out according to the independent demands and opinions of the popular masses, and the most consolidated and mighty society, which makes it possible to unreservedly give play to the creativity of the popular masses, be built.

The basic content of a socialist democracy is to inflict (?dictatorship) on the enemy of the people, to ensure the popular masses' political freedom and rights and a happy material and cultural life, and to enhance their unity and cohesion in an all-around manner.

This being the case, only when socialist democracy is fully manifested under socialism can the entire society be more firmly united into a sociopolitical organic body combined with a single life and can this body vigorously move with an independent life.

To comprehensively enforce socialist democracy and give unreserved play to the creativity of the popular masses, the unitary leadership of the party and the revolutionary mass lines should be correctly combined with each other under socialism.

The party unites the independent demands and interests of the popular masses as one and leads the activities of the popular masses to realize them. Thus, the popular masses' own politics, which enables them to maintain their status sd masters of the state and society and to fulfill their role, are fully realized.

By defending the interests of the popular masses and by solving everything by relying upon the strength of the popular masses, the revolutionary mass lines ensure the popular masses' democratic freedom and equality and enable them to maintain the status of masters of the revolution and construction and to fulfill their role of masters.

If an excessive emphasis is laid on either the unitary leadership of the party or the revolutionary mass lines, the single-hearted integration of the party and the masses cannot be achieved nor can the might of socialist democracy and the creativity of the popular masses be smoothly displayed.

Our party adheres to correctly combining the unitary leadership of the party with the revolutionary mass lines as the principle of its activities and gives great significance to and concentrates efforts on establishing the revolutionary work system and method of the party to this end.

Since the basic mission of the party lies in leading the revolution and construction, the work system and method of the party should work to give full play to the creativity of the popular masses in the revolution and construction, while thoroughly guaranteeing the singularity [yuilsong] of leadership.

Our party has seen to it that the work system, in which the entire party moves as one under the singular guidance of the party center and the party committees guide all fields and units in a unified manner as the supreme guiding organ, the great Chongsan-ri spirit and method, and the Taean work system embodying them have been thoroughly implemented.

Our party's work system, in which the singularity of leadership can be thoroughly guaranteed, the Chongsan-ri spirit and method, and the Taean work system embodying them is a scientific and revolutionary work system and method which most correctly combine the party's singular leadership in the management of socialist state and economy.

The Chongsan-ri spirit and method and the Taean work system embodying them have been thoroughly implemented. As a result, bureaucratism and subjectivism have been overcome among functionaries, democracy has been fully demonstrated, and the boundless creativity of the popular masses has been unreservedly displayed.

Cherishing deep in the heart the revolutionary pride in building a superior socialism under the leadership of the great party, we should continue to vigorously advance along the road indicated by the party, thus further increasing the invincible vitality and attraction of socialism.

Kang Hui-won Attends Potong River Ceremony

SK2105063590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0534 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang working people's meeting to mark the 44th anniversary of the significant day when the great leader President Kim Il-song participated in the ground-breaking ceremony of the Potong River improvement project and took the first shovel was held in front of the monument to the Potong River improvement project on May 20.

Attending there were Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, and other officials concerned.

The reporter and speakers at the meeting said that the great leader initiated the Potong River improvement project as the first work to realize his grand nature-remaking plan in the difficult period of building the country right after the liberation and personally participated in the ground-breaking ceremony on May 21, 1946 and took the first shovel.

Immensely inspired by this, the entire working people in Pyongyang registered such proud success as completing the vast project in a matter of 55 days, they said.

The completion of the Potong River improvement project was a brilliant victory brought by the great leader's far-reaching nature-remaking plan and a remarkable event which demonstrated the ardent fidelity and patriotism of our working class and people, they stressed, and went on:

Under the energetic leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il many barrages including the West Sea Barrage have been built across the Taedong River alone and the capital city of Pyongyang built as a modern city with many monumental edifices such as the May Day Stadium, the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace, Changgwang Street and Chongchun Street.

They stressed the need to bring about a new turn in land construction and city management, upholding the party's intention.

WPK Delegation Returns From China Visit

SK2205072290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0536 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—The delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee, returned home today after visiting China.

It was met by Kim Yong-yun, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, Yang Tae-yong, secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee the Chinese consul general in Chongjin [sentence as received].

Achievements in Land Construction Registered

SK1805152290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 18 (KCNA)—Remarkable achievements have been registered in land development and nature-remaking in Korea.

According to data available, 2 million hectares of forests have been created in the past one decade to diversify the composition of forests and species of trees and largely increase the faunal resources, new rare birds flocking in.

Nearly 800 kilometres of railways and expressways were built. Among them are 252 kilometre-long Hyesan-Manpo youth railway, the first phase of the northern railway project, and Kumgol-Taehong railways and tracks between Kumchon and the Yesong-kang youth railway station, between Chongdan and Togdal and expressway between Wonsan and Mt. Kumgang.

Five modern lockgates with vast pondage including the West Sea barrage and the Mirim lockgate have made their appearance and the construction of 400 kilometres of dike and shore protection projects including several sections of the rivers Amnok, Tuman, Taedong and Chongchon have been completed.

With the 8,800 hectares of Taegyedo tideland, 5,200 hectares of Kangnyong tideland, 3,200 hectares of Unyul tideland and other vast tracts of tidelands reclaimed, the state-run November 10 youth farm and many other farms, workteams and salterns have cropped up.

58 islands, big and small, have been linked to the mainland and the length of the coastlines has been cut by 80 kilometres and inlets have been moved far out to the sea.

40,000 kilometres of irrigation channels have been built to supply water to crop fields including tideland-turned paddy fields.

Such great achievements have been made possible by the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the DPRK that pay great attention to land construction and wisely lead this work.

It is stipulated in the land law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proclaimed on April 29, 1977 that a general land development plan envisaging concrete measures from land rezoning and reclamation of tideland to the creation and utility of forests, construction of rivers, lakes and reservoirs, comprehensive use of seashores and territorial waters, protection of marine resources and steps to prevent pollution should be worked out and carried into practice.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in his work "On Improving Land Management" (November 19, 1984) clearly indicated the general orientation of the work and over-all tasks in this domain and ways of their fulfillment.

He sees to it that the progress of the general land development plan is controlled and guided in a unified and comprehensive way while sending huge construction forces and construction machines and encouraging in person the construction workers on the spot.

Korea will register greater success in land development and grand nature-remaking in the 90s.

Housing Construction 'Brisk' Across North

SK2105230890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2205 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 (KCNA)—Modern dwelling houses are being built on an extensive scale across Korea.

In the Nangnang plain on the outskirts of Pyongyang high and superhigh houses for 20,000 families are under construction on both sides of a 120 metre-wide boulevard extending more than four kilometres.

The construction of flats for 10,000 households is progressing at a fast speed in Kwangbok Street as its second stage.

The total number of the houses now under construction in Pyongyang is for 50,000 families.

The construction, expected to be completed by the end of 1991, is 1.5 times the scale of the projects carried out in three years towards the end of the '80s. At that time 260 odd monumental edifices including the May Day Stadium with 150,000 seats were erected, startling the world people.

In four months or more builders of the capital broke the ground for flats for nearly 20,000 families and the groundwork for more than 10,000 housholds have been completed and carried out the frame assembling for 1,000 families.

Housing construction is also brisk in local cities.

North Hamgyong Province set itself the goal to build houses for 15,000 families within this year and already started building of houses for 12,000 households. The constructors in the province, by introducing rational building methods, have already finished flats for hundreds of families and brought those for 3,500 families to the stage of completion.

And houses for 10,000 to 16,000 households are rising up in other provinces including North Pyongan and North Hwanghae Provinces.

Those for hundreds or thousands of families have already been completed in the residential quarters of 15,000 households of the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex, the residential quarters of 6,000 households of the Sunchon vinalon complex, Namsinuiju where houses for 3,500 families are planned and other districts.

And calcium silicate brick houses for 15,000 families have been completed out of those for 30,000 families under construction all over the country.

10,000 Hectares of Medicinal Herbs Cultivated

SK1905120390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 19 (KCNA)—April and May in Korea are set as months of cultivation of medicinal herbs.

Medicinal herbs are now briskly planted on mountains and fields nationwide on this occasion.

As of May 10, various species of efficacious medicinal herbs had been planted on over 10,000 hectares.

The state directs big efforts to the work of increasing the traditional medicine resources for the protection and promotion of the people's health.

Farms and workteams specializing in the production of medicinal herbs have been organized in large numbers in different parts of the country including Kaesong, Wonsan, Changjin and Samjiyon.

Health organs also have thousands of hectares of land for the cultivation of medicinal herbs.

The medical plants gathered in Korea run into 700 species.

Especially, ginseng (insam), astralagus membranaceus, epimedium Koreanum, bark of amur cork tree and other efficacious herbs have won great popularity at home and abroad as raw materials for tonic.

The proportion of traditional medicine in the production of medicines of the nation is on a yearly increase with the expansion of the medicinal herb resources.

Waterway, Power Plant Opening Ceremony Reported

SK2205053290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 22 (KCNA)—An opening ceremony of the Taechon Power Station No. 5-Unjon-Chongju-Kwaksan Waterway was held on May 21.

Several dozen tons of water of the Taeryong and Chungman Rivers flows into the Kwaksan Reservoir per second through this waterway.

This waterway will supply sufficient water to vast plains of Pakchon, Unjon, Chongju and Kwaksan counties, North Pyongan Province, largely boosting agricultural production.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a letter of thanks to working people in North Pyongan Province and soldiers of the Korean People's Army who carried out in a short period the grand nature-remaking project involving the excavation of 60 kilometres of channels and construction of more than 240 structures.

National Meeting of Fishery Activists Held

SK1905014890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1218 GMT 16 May 90

[Excerpts] A national meeting of activists in the fishery sector was held in the People's Place of Culture on 15-16 May. [passage omitted]

The meeting was attended by Comrade Hong Song-nam, Comrade Pak Nam-ki, Choe Pok-yon, and other functionaries concerned together with activists in the fishery sector. [passage omitted]

Choe Pok-yon, chairman of the Fisheries Committee, made a report in the meeting. [passage omitted]

South Korea

Pyongyang's Recent Political Overture Viewed

SK2205010890 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 May 90 p 2

[By staff reporter Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] North Korea is stepping up its diplomatic initiatives to improve relations with the non-aligned bloc and some Western countries, while South Korea has been rapidly setting up ties with the North's old allies in Eastern Europe.

North Korea has sent high-powered administration and party delegations to pro-Pyongyang African countries since last March, invited non-aligned movement leaders and replaced 12 ambassadors so far this year apparently to generate more vigorous activities, according to North Korea watchers here.

Its overtures have largely focused on Third World nations in which the Communist North has enjoyed more influence than the capitalist South where American soldiers are stationed. But it is now expanding to Western Europe, the United States and Japan with which it is seeking better ties.

The observers viewed that Pyongyang's peace offensive might be aimed at disrupting a Seoul application for UN membership as a short-term goal and further at introducing technology, capital and expertise and achieving rapprochement with the Western countries in the long run.

Two goodwill delegations, led by a Vice President Yi Chong-ok, were dispatched to Ethiopia, Egypt and Brundi, in March and April.

These were followed by a mission, headed by another Vice President, Pak Song-chol, that traveled to Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia, Botswana and Angola for 20 days from April 14.

Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam visited Namibia, Congo, Guinea and Ghana from late March through early April and External Economic Minister Chong Song-nam went to Zaire early last month to sustain their support of the Kim Il-song government by means of commitment to economic cooperation, the South Korean experts said.

Various levels of government missions were also dispatched to Cuba, Syria, South Yemen, Vietnam and Laos, all Pyongyang's close friends, in addition to the African countries.

Earlier this month, non-aligned movement leaders such as Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Begum Nusrat Bhutto, president of Pakistan People's Party, and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak visited Pyongyang as part of the North's diplomatic bids.

They reaffirmed advocation of the North's stance in inter-Korean issues in their talks with Kim, official North Korean radio reports, monitored here, said.

Following a delegation of the External Cultural Exchange Committee and a delegation of the Workers' Party which separately visited Italy and France, a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly (parliament) has been traveling in Italy, France and Belgium since May 10.

Their contacts have largely been confined to Socialist or Communist Party members in Western Europe, yet they are seen as good signs that the closed society is seeking rapprochement with advanced capitalist countries, the watchers viewed.

"North Korea seems to be pursuing the promotion of trade with the technical transfer and capital inducement from the West on a long-term basis to inject vigor into its ailing economy and hence improve the living standards of its people though it is unlikely to adopt rapid reforms as in Eastern European countries," said Choe Mun-hyon, assistant national unification minister for policy.

He especially recollected that North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Chon In-chol told reporters in Helsinki last Tuesday Pyongyang would "do its best" to improve relations with Washington and hope for Washington's "commensurate" steps.

In the wake of the North's decision to deliver the remains of five U.S. soldiers killed during the 1950-53 Korean War on May 28 Memorial Day, the Bush administration allowed Ho Chong, the North's deputy permanent observer to the United Nations, to go to Washington to speak on Pyongyang's ideas on inter-Korean matters in a symposium. Two Pyongyang experts were given visas for the symposium organized by George Washington University and Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN newspaper last week.

As a short-term goal, Pyongyang aims at blocking Seoul's possible application for UN membership through the reinforced diplomatic activities, Choe analyzed.

"The North is believed to be appealing for its friends' support in preparation for our potential motion to join the world body, while trying to dissuade our supporters from speaking up for us. Its diplomatic overtures may also be designed to avoid external pressure to follow in the step of reforming Eastern European nations," he said.

South Korea, determined to gain a seat at the UN within President No Tae-u's tenure ending in February 1993, is aggressively pushing for the long-cherished target, appointing No's confident, Hyon Hong-chu as ambassador to the UN and his long-serving secretary Mun Tong-suk as the Foreign Ministry's director general for international organizations.

It sees North Korea's own theory that the UN membership of divided countries disrupts reunification losing grounds with East and West Germany and North and South Yemen, all UN members, reaching the threshold of unification now.

The North Korea watchers predicted the possibility that Kim Il-song may put forward new proposals regarding North-South relations during the first plenum of the ninth Supreme People's Assembly, scheduled to open on Thursday.

Tokyo Dispatches Official To End Apology Issue

SK2205055990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0508 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP)—The Japanese Government dispatched a powerful backroom troubleshooter to Seoul on Tuesday in order to end a drawn-out diplomatic wrangle over Emperor Akihito's apology for Japan's colonization of Korea early this century.

Ryuzo Sejima arrived at Kimpo International Airport shortly after noon along with former Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda. Both will attend the Interaction Council meeting of former heads of state that opens here Wednesday.

Sejima was to pay a call on President No Tae-u, who starts his controversial state visit to Tokyo on Thursday, at 1:30 P.M.

He was to be accompanied by Pak Tae-chun, a leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, who will fly to Japan right after hearing Tokyo's final position on the emperor's apology.

Sejima, currently a consultant to the Itochu Trading Co., is widely known as a behind-the-scenes fixer in political and financial circles in Japan.

He mediated the normalization of Korea-Japan ties in 1965 and the two countries' tug-of-war over economic cooperation in the early 1980s.

A high-ranking government official said Sejima's message would not be made public even if it was unsatisfactory.

The government will decide whether to invite Akihito to visit Korea after hearing the message, he said.

If it is deemed unable to appease public resentment over Japan's treatment of Koreans during colonial rule (1910-1945), the government will demand that Tokyo rewrite the message, the official said.

"As we have repeatedly conveyed our unswerving position on the emperor's clear-toned expression of apology and repentance, we think the Japanese Government understands what we expect," he said.

"The emperor's remarks to No should at least clarify who is apologizing to whom. The remarks should also reveal Japan's repentance for the past."

The government will adapt its stance after hearing Sejima's explanation and considering the outcome of Pak's activities in Tokyo.

It has been reported that Akihito, the son of the late Emperor Hirohito, who ruled Japan during and after World War II, will read an apology prepared by the Japanese Administration during a meeting with No.

Both the Japanese Government and political parties have tried to keep the emperor from making apologetic remarks on the ground that he is a national symbol and not the head of state.

Chondaehyop Threatens To Occupy U.S. Facilities

SK2205035990 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] In connection with the fact that, during today's news conference, the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] designated today a so-called day of anti-Americanism and declared that it would occupy U.S. facilities, 700 policemen from 5 combat police companies were deployed around the U.S. Embassy and the American Cultural Center to guard them. Later this morning, police took away eight students who tried to deliver a letter of protest to the U.S. Embassy.

Previously Chondaehyop held a news conference at the office of the president of of Hanyang University's General Student Council this morning. At this news conference, Chondaehyop asserted that the United States approved the deployment of military units during the Kwangju democratization movement and asked the United States to publicly apologize for this. In the protest letter, which it tried to deliver today, Chondaehyop said that it will start a so-called struggle for punishment if the U.S. does not reply before 26 May.

'Dissident Organization' Denied Contact to North

SK2205054590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0515 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has denied a request by a dissident organization for permission to attend a meeting of Koreans from the two halves of the Korean peninsula and overseas in West Berlin early next month.

The National Unification Board told the National Alliance of Democratic Movements on Tuesday that it could not approve participation in preliminary contacts for a "pan-Korean meeting for peace and reunification of the fatherland" as North Korea was trying to exploit the occasion to cause confusion in the South.

A written reply to the May 17 application said: "The government cannot approve participation in the meeting as the North Korean authorities, while maintaining negative attitudes toward normalization of inter-Korean dialogue and exchanges, are trying to exploit the meeting as an occasion to stir up inner confusion in our society.

"The preliminary contacts will only encourage the North's attempts at disturbing the South, doing no good to the improvement of inter-Korean relations."

The alliance immediately accused the government of "adhering to the black-or-white logic of the cold war era" and of "opposing national reunification by rejecting meetings and exchanges with North Korea."

If the government were sincere about promotion of inter-Korean dialogue and exchange, it would see the pan-Korean meeting as important for the development of South-North contacts.

Japanese High-Tech Transfer Tied to Train Deal

SK2205001290 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 22 May 90 p 1

[Text] The government will link the transfer of high technology from Japan to a bid for a contract for the construction of a high-speed train system in Korea.

Pak Tae-chun, co-chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, said yesterday that the government will use the heated competition between Japan and France for the $10 billion project as leverage in persuading Japan to transfer advanced technology to Korea.

Pak, Korean-side chairman of the Korea-Japan Parliamentarians League and honorary chairman of Pohang Iron and Steel Company (POSCO), will leave for Japan today for behind-the-scenes negotiations on economic cooperation between South Korea and Japan timed with President No Tae-u's state visit starting Thursday.

The bidding for the construction of the high-speed train system is likely to be taken up during President No's three-day visit, Pak said.

Three trainmakers in Japan, France, and West Germany are engaged in an all-out battle for the contract which Pak Tae-chun described as a "competition of the century." The three makers are Alsthom International of France, the manufacturer of TGV [Tran 'a Grande Vitesse], Mitsubishi Heavy Industries of Japan which built the Shinkansen "bullet train" and a West German consortium led by Siemens.

President No earlier planned to make a trial ride in the Shinkansen during his visit but cancelled the plan. During his visit to France in November, last year, President No took a ride in the TGV high-speed train. Alsthom International, manufacturer of the TGV train which set a new world rail speed record of 516 kilometers per hour over the weekend, is more advanced in technology than its rival in Japan.

Pak said that although he agrees that it is important to have Japanese apologize for their colonial rule of Korea, the transfer of high technology from Japan is also an urgent issue.

The transfer of high technology and other issues of economic cooperation and the apologies by the Japanese emperor and prime minister are expected to top the business talks during President No's visit.

Pak added that France has an ambitious plan to link Europe and Asia by way of the Silk Road with its high-speed train, while Japan is eyeing a similar plan.

Car Ferry Service With Japan To Begin

SK2005021290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 May 90 p 3

[Text] A car ferry service between Korea's southern port of Pusan and Hakada on Japan's Kyushu island will begin this December, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said yesterday.

A high-speed jet foil passenger service will also be launched on the route next April, according to KMPA.

The Pusan-Hakada car ferry service, operated in a 49-51 partnership between Korea Marine Transport Co. in Korea and Japan's Kinkai Yusen Kaisha, will run six times a week with a 9,000 G/T vessel, officials said.

Agreements on the routes were made at the recently concluded Korea-Japan maritime talks in Tokyo, KMPA officials said.

Other issues at the talks, however, which included allowing Japanese shipping companies to participate in Korea-Japan feeder services, were unresolved, the officials said.

No agreement was produced in rerouting one of the two Pusan-Osaka car ferries to serve Kobe, a proposal strongly pushed by Japan since last year, they said.

The two sides agreed to set up a car-ferry service between Pusan and Hakada in December and follow up with a jet-foil passenger service in April next year, according to KMPA.

But Korea held off Japan's request that its shipping companies be allowed to carry feeder cargo between the two countries. Korea at present prohibits Japanese vessels from cargo services on the route except for car ferries. Such prohibition, Japan has been claiming, is "an extremely unfair practice" since even U.S. vessels, mainly Sea-Land and American President Lines, are not barred on the route.

Japan also had asked that one of the two car ferries playing the Pusan-Osaka route be rerouted to serve Kobe, one of the major Japanese ports where Korean export cargo is unloaded.

Domestic shipping companies are arguing that if such rerouting is allowed, Japan will end up taking a large share of Korea's Japan-bound cargo by using the car-ferry service.

Next round of talks has been set for coming September in Seoul, KMPA said.

Joint Seminar Planned With Vietnam for Summer

SK2205052190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0521 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP)—The Institute of East and West Studies at Yonsei University in Seoul will link hands with the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry to hold a seminar here July 26-Aug. 2, the institute said Tuesday.

A five-member Vietnamese delegation will be invited to the seminar, on "Economic Coooperation in the Changing Asia-Pacific Region in the 1990s."

Prof. Kim Tal-chung of Yonsei and three other Korean experts took part in a similar seminar in Ho Chi Minh City last December.

The institute had planned to hold the second joint academic conference in Seoul May 31-June 6, but it was postponed at Vietnam's request.

The new date has yet to be confirmed by the Vietnamese economic body.

Meanwhile, two economic experts from the Korea Development Institute (KDI) are to be sent to Vietnam, with which South Korea has no diplomatic ties, in the latter half of this year to help the Hanoi government's development strategy.

The Vietnamese government asked the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in 1988 to send two economic experts to help it draw up development strategies and the organization recommended two Korean experts, according to KDI officials.

Industrial Mission To Tour Middle East

SK2205003690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 22 May 90 p 6

[Text] A 15-member industrial cooperation mission will visit Saudi Arabia, Iran, Egypt and Libya on May 28-June 10 to promote various kinds of Korean industrial plants, machinery, equipment and finished goods, a Kotra [Korea Trade Promotion Corporation] official said.

Sonu Yong-il, director-general of the Middle East Bureau of Kotra, will lead the delegation that will also include representatives from the Export-Import Bank of Korea.

Meanwhile, industry sources said that the mission will promote various Korean products such as plastics, artificial leather, medical disposables, cosmetics, agriculture machinery, knitting machines, construction tools and others.

The trade volume between Saudi Arabia and Korea was $1.85 billion in 1989, with the balance of trade in favor of Saudi Arabia because of a substantial increase in exports of Saudi crude oil which increased by 14.1 percent.

Saudi Arabia's total exports to Korea increased by 24.5 percent last year to reach $1.04 billion while its imports from Korea dropped by 27.9 percent to $814 million.

The decline of Korean exports to the Middle East nation was particularly notable in textiles, tires and iron and steel products.

Importing PRC Brides Gets 'Favorable Response'

SK2005022790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 May 90 p 2

[YONHAP report]

[Text] Cheju—In an industrializing country like Korea, life is hard in rural areas. It is hardest on single men, since eligible girls usually leave their villages as soon as they come of age.

After witnessing several young men die from yearning in recent months, the government has hit on an imaginative solution.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Kang Po-song said Friday that his ministry is talking with officials from Yanbian in China on arranging for women of Korean descent to marry Korean farmers.

"I hope to see results within the year. Korea and China do not have diplomatic relations, but there is no stumbling block in inviting Koreans. I've had a favorable response from provincial government officials and Koreans there," the minister said.

He said the first touched on the subject when he visited Yanbian, which has a large Korean population, while on his way back from the 20th regional meeting of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization in Beijing last month.

Talks Held With USSR on Container Vessels

SK2005014190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 20 May 90 p 8

[Text] Korea and the Soviet Union agreed to deploy one container vessel with a capacity of 400 to 600 twenty-foot containers once a week on the direct shipping route between the two countries, the Korea Maritime and Port Administration said yesterday.

But after two rounds of working level talks it was not decided which side will provide the vessel. The talks were held in Moscow and Vladivostok on May 7-11, a spokesman said.

He said the vessel should be loaded with containers to be provided by the Soviets.

Freight income based on free in and out (FIB) terms will be equally distributed to each side in the joint shipping service and unified bills of lading (B/Ls) will be used.

The two sides also agreed to hold joint operation committee meetings twice a year—once in April in Seoul and the other in September in Nakhodka.

The two countries have been negotiating to open a direct sea route between Pusan of Korea and Vladivostok and Nakholdka of the Soviet Union in a joint operation which has yet to be decided on.

Mun Ik-sang, executive managing director of Hyundai Merchant Marine Co., led a six-member Korean delegation, while Sviatoslav I. Sergeyev, vice president of Glavflot, Soviet central ship management bureau, headed a six-member Soviet delegation at the Moscow talks.

But, several detailed issue have yet to be solved, the spokesman said.

The Soviet side expressed its hope that it will deploy the first ship with a conventional vessel of the state-run Far Eastern Shipping Co. by converting it into a container ship.

But the Korean delegation insisted that they will deploy the first ship. AS an alternative, the delegation suggested construction of a container ship in a joint investment.

In freight rate decisions, the Soviet delegation insisted on obligation of consent from export and import organizations, while the Korean side contended freight rates be decided on in non-binding consultation with trade organizations.

The Seoul delegation also maintained that both countries should guarantee national treatment to the vessel to be jointly operated, while Moscow proposed that the matter should be handled at government-level talks.

Meanwhile, the two countries are scheduled to resume the third round of government-level maritime talks in July in Seoul to iron out differences.

Monthly Views Kim Yong-sam, Pak Chol-on Feud

SK2105003990 Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean May 90 pp 116-125

[Article by Kwon Yong-ki: Power Games of the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and Intelligence Politics]

[Text]**The Unalloyed Power Struggle Begins**

The resignation of First Minister for Political Affairs Pak Chol-on brought an end to internal dissent within the DLP. Dissension triggered disorder within the party, and even caused elements within the party itself to challenge the legitimacy of the three parties merger. The various camps within the DLP have been busy mending fences before the May national party convention.

The mending done in resolving the crisis, however, may prove to be no better than "false stitches." Ramifications which surfaced during both the developmental and clean-up stages of the dissension remain and will have a sizable impact on future party direction, operations, and dynamic structure.

This outlook is based on several factors. The feuding which broke out between the Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] camps amounted to a basic struggle for party hegemony. Going a step further, the feud was part of a long term strategy related to the question of who will succeed President No Tae-u when his term as president expires.

In this context, then, the resignation of Pak Chol-on is seen as merely a temporary solution to the problem of party discord. Some political observers, in fact, see Pak's resignation as the beginning of new, long-term party discord. In the feuding to day, each side gained insight into the intentions of the other. Thus, many predict that DLP discord may actually escalate in the future.

A Possible New Order Within the DLP

The "defeat of lawmaker Pak Chol-on" ended the internecine DLP dispute, at least on the surface but left long-lasting scars on the party. The DLP must restructure the order of the party itself as a result of the dispute.

What will the future structure of the party be like? What formula will be used to form a new order within the party? Several factors must be examined jointly to predict the answers to such questions. One must first look at the origin and development of dissent within the DJP. Then, an examination of the process and how each party reacted to it is needed to forecast the future of the DLP.

Troubles within the DLP began when Party Cochairman Kim Yong-sam failed to attend the meeting of party officials hosted by President No Tae-u at the Chongwadae on 7 April 1990. Kim was angry over his feud with Pak Chol-on during their visit to the Soviet Union and was also disappointed with the assessing of responsibility for the party's poor showing in the recent by-elections. His absence from the Chongwadae meeting was an expression of his displeasure. The following day, Chief Presidential Secretary No Chae-pong visited Cochairman Kim at his Sangdo-tong residence for one hour and 50 minutes. Secretary No successfully convinced Kim to attend a private meeting with President No at Chongwadae, making it appear as though the issue would be settled quickly.

Minister Pak Chol-on began to criticize Kim Yong-sam venomously on 10 April, however, dampening any hopes for an early settlement to the crisis. "If I were to make public what took place during the three parties merger, or Kim's actions during the visit to the Soviet Union," Pak said, "then Kim's political life would end instantly." With bombshell statements such as these, it became impossible to hold back the discord.

DLP Cochairman Kim Yong-sam denounced what he characterized during a press conference in Pusan immediately following Pak's statement as "intelligence politics." Kim declared, "The DLP is pulling against itself right now. We must establish party discipline and renovate the party atmosphere." "Pak Chol-on was wrong," conceded DLP Cochairman Kim Chong-pil, sympathizing with Kim Yong-sam as he stepped forward to mediate the dispute.

After Kim Chong-pil came forward to mediate, he and Kim Yong-sam met at Walker Hill's Pearl Villa on 12 April. They were not able, however, to narrow their differences regarding Pak Chol-on's resignation. Kim Yong-sam and the RDP circle then launched a desperation attack, their backs against the wall. Rumors circulated that Kim Yong-sam was contemplating resigning as party cochairman. The RDP faction appears to have spread these rumors as a last ditch effort to bring the crisis to an end. If that was their intention, it did not work. On 13 April, however, representatives of Cochairmen Kim Chong-pil and Kim Yong-sam met with Minister Pak at the Hilton Hotel. Soon afterwards, Pak submitted his resignation from the post of first minister for political affairs to Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun. It appeared as though the crisis was beginning to be settled.

Following a 14 April meeting between Cochairmen Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil in Sangdo-tong, President No met with the two Kims and representatives of Cochairman Pak Tae-chun on 17 April at Chongwadae. They wrote finis to the party dissension issue during this meeting.

Minister Pak Driven by Public Opinion

However Pak Chol-on's resignation came about, his stunning remarks shook the very foundation of the DLP. The full scale warfare between the DJP and RDP factions reflected a confrontation between President No and Cochairman Kim Yong-sam. Pak's resignation was unavoidable, however one analyzes it.

Neither Pak Chol-on nor President No, of course, wanted the party dissent to push Pak into the back seat, politically. It appears that in the beginning President No considered taking appropriate measures based on the view that neither side was free from error. If so, what caused Pak to decide to resign his ministerial position?

The public view of Pak Chol-on was negative and dropping, and that was the primary factor in his decision to resign. Criticism of Pak reached such levels that it began to hurt President No's own image. The DJP camp apparently decided the trend in public opinion could no longer be ignored. As soon as negative public opinion, as measured by organizations like the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP], approached the danger level, Chongwadae and the leadership of the DJP faction decided that Pak's resignation was the only answer.

As the party headed into its national convention, meanwhile, for his part, Kim Yong-sam maintained an adamant position: "Choose one or the other—Pak Chol-on or the DLP." The decision for Pak to resign was made, then, to preserve the party's existence. Protracted dissent would trigger increasing public dissatisfaction with the party, and some estimated that this would impact President No's ability to rule.

President No called the leaders of the DJP faction to Chongwadae on the night of 11 April and instructed them to settle the crisis. As a whole, the DJP faction leadership held no more than an indifferent attitude toward Pak Chol-on. That indifference apparently played a key role in Pak's resignation, because the leadership had no reservations as Pak was swept away in the turmoil.

Many saw Pak as having exceptional influence in ruling party circles and acknowledged his technical skills. He could not, however, escape condemnation of his autocratic, go-it-alone style. Pak's Wolgaesu [laurel tree] Association held party unity in low regard, deepening the friction within the DJP faction. The disinterest shown in Pak's fate by leaders of the DJP faction at the crucial moment amounts to stinging compensation for Pak's arrogance.

No one emerged from the internecine DLP struggle with any meaningful gains. Nor is there any need to argue the point. The public rose up as virtually one voice to label the dissent as evidence of a secret power struggle within the party. What caused the DLP to be entangled in internal party struggles even before its inaugural convention?

Cochairman Kim Yong-sam's "crisis mentality" was the primary source of the internal strife, and Pak Chol-on must be seen as the major contributor to Kim's fears. The RDP faction insisted that the crisis was very serious. Serious enough, indeed, to lead Cochairman Kim Yong-sam, the second most powerful figure in the party, to take on Pak Chol-on head-to-head despite the fact that Pak was a mere first term assemblyman and Kim had everything to lose.

Kim Yong-sam and the RDP faction raised many issues as the internal dissent crisis developed. These issues and their implications can be summarized in a few key points.

The Truth About "Intelligence Politics"

First, the DLP's DJP faction retreated en masse from the reformist intentions on which the three parties merger was based to a conservative posture. Secondly, Pak Chol-on dominated party operations, placing tight restraints on Kim Yong-sam. Kim's supporters who had their sights set on seizing power at the DLP national convention saw Pak as a major obstacle to achieving their goals. These men put top priority on solving the problem of Pak Chol-on.

More than anything else, however, Kim Yong-sam's crisis mentality was heightened by his perception that the government was practicing "intelligence politics" against him. Kim became convinced that he was the object of secret investigations and that attempts were being made to choke off his sources of political funds. Kim developed these suspicions immediately after he returned from his visit to Moscow.

"Regardless of who is in power, a regime which rigs elections and conducts intelligence politics cannot survive," Kim said. "We must cut this off at the roots. If we do not, then the party will be still born." Kim made these comments even after his 14 April meeting with Cochairman Kim Chong-pil. Kim also emphasized intelligence politics during the 17 April Chongwadae meeting.

The RDP faction has not disclosed publicly concrete examples of the "intelligence politics" they charge. Piecing together leaks from RDP faction figures, however, several tangible examples of what the RDP regards as "intelligence politics" emerge.

The RDP alleges that the NSP is investigating Kim Yong-sam's comments and actions and that his telephones are being tapped. Finally, many in the RDP believe that the NSP is investigating Kim's financial backers. The prime example of "intelligence politics" advanced by RDP figures is that the NSP is investigating Kim Yong-sam's remarks to a Mr. K. and a Mr. J., two religious figures with whom Kim has played golf.

The RDP faction also claims that the NSP is investigating the sources of Kim's political funding, to include his deposit passbook. RDP sources say financial backers have complained of being subjected to investigation on numerous occasions since Kim's visit to the Soviet Union.

The NSP is also rumored to have launched a financial investigation after learning that Kim Yong-sam financially supported non-RDP faction lawmakers within the DLP during the process of reorganizing local party chapters. DJP lawmakers' criticism of Kim's hasty actions in this regard are noteworthy. Kim invited all DLP assemblymen to the Shilla Hotel and treated them to dinner before leaving for the Soviet Union. He also provided financial support to assemblymen tasked with overseeing local party chapter reorganization meetings. Finally, Kim invited DLP leaders to the "B" restaurant at the DLI 63 Building for dinner after his return from the Soviet Union. The DJP faction has been critical of all these actions.

Kim Yong-sam insists that NSP Director So Tong-kwon's role and responsibility in "intelligence politics" cannot be easily ignored. A close aide of Kim asserts, "We have solid evidence that the secret investigation of Cochairman Kim Yong-sam is a product of an understanding between assemblyman Pak Chol-on and NSP Director So."

More Darts for NSP Director So Tong-kwon

The government and the DJP faction respond that this is solely a "misunderstanding" on Kim Yong-sam's part. One key figure within the DJP faction explained, "It has been customary in the past to attempt to ascertain what activities and what trends key ruling party figures may be taking. Cochairman Kim has not been singled out in this regard. Kim seems to perceive this as intelligence politics only because he is not yet familiar with the nature of the ruling party."

The RDP faction rejects this argument, however. They point out that President No's political operating style has undergone significant changes since the Sixth Republic was launched more than two years ago. The expansion of the role and activities of the NSP is a key factor in this change. Indeed, this perception is common not only in the RDP but throughout the political world.

The political role of the NSP has increased dramatically since So Tong-kwon became director.

So Tong-kwon played a decisive role in Chong Ho-yong's resignation during the final days of the Fifth Republic settlement in December 1989. President No's confidence in So increased as a result. President No often asks, "Should we not try to present the image of an easygoing President who has subordinates who deal forcefully with issues?" Sources say So Tong-kwon faithfully plays the role of No's heavy.

President No invited influential members of the DJP faction to a drinking party at the Chongwadae in January 1990 immediately after the merger of the three parties. During the party, No is reported to have directed So Tong-kwon to "eliminate any aftereffects or dissension regarding the partisan restructuring." Chong Ho-yong's withdrawal from the by-election race in West A-district, Taegu, is rumored to have resulted from secret investigations and pressure on Chong and from pressure on his supporters as well. The NSP assumed an active role in this process, some believe.

The RDP faction insists that the NSP played a major role in Chong Ho-yong's withdrawal from the race. So

Tong-kwon's participation in meetings held to deal with the recent internal party strife is another concrete example of intelligence politics in action.

Cochairman Kim Yong-sam and the RDP faction believe that Pak Chol-on was behind intelligence politics because Pak exercised influence to secure So Tong-kwon's appointment as NSP director. In July 1989 Pak Chol-on leaked the news of So's nomination to reporters before the fact. Chongwadae believed that, "NSP Director Pak Se-chik is too moderate. He just watches to see what the two opposition parties will do." Moreover, when reports of Pak's visit to North Korea hit the press during the maelstrom created by the so-called security politics crisis, the NSP focussed an attack on Pak, saying, "This happened because Pak's hasty pursuit of the Nordpolitik policy."

The Relationship Between Pak Chol-on and So Tong-kwon

Kim Yong-sam's side insists that key positions within the NSP have been filled by close confidants of Pak Chol-on. Pak exercises control over these people, the RDP alleges, even as the NSP's formal command structure is ignored. This has resulted in intensified NSP political investigations of the ruling circle. According to a source close to Cochairman Kim Yong-sam, Pak Chol-on's recommendations played a key role in the appointment of a number of key NSP officials in addition to Director So Tong-kwon, including, First Vice Director Kim Yong-su, the director of the Office of Planning and Coordination, the second special assistant to the NSP director, and the director's chief secretary. First Vice Director Kim Yong-su is responsible for domestic affairs. He previously acted as a special assistant for legal affairs to the NSP director while being officially posted as a senior prosecutor—section chief level—in the Ministry of Justice's Prosecution Bureau. As First Vice Director, Kim receives protocol treatment that falls between that of a minister and a vice minister.

Kim Yong-sam's side points especially to the case of Son Po-kon, second special assistant to the NSP director, the official in charge of domestic politics and investigations. A former senior presidential secretary for civil affairs, Son was obliged to resign from his position due to complicity in the corruption perpetrated by relatives of Chon Tu-hwan. Yet Son was rehired as second special assistant because he was Pak Chol-on's classmate at Kyongbuk Middle School. Kim Yong-sam's side says that Son now is the leading figure in intelligence politics.

Sources also say that that Yi Chong-paek and Yom Ton-chae hold key positions within the NSP. Both men served as secretaries to Pak Chol-on when Pak was presidential assistant for policy.

The RDP faction also points to the "special relationship" between Pak Chol-on and So Tong-kwon. So was prosecutor general in 1986 when Pak was a special assistant for legal affairs to the NSP director. So promoted Pak from the rank of chief public prosecutor to the rank of supreme prosecutor, a rank equivalent to that of the director of the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office. So and Pak are alumni of Kyongbuk High School, where So graduated eight years ahead of Pak. Pak was promoted by So Tong-kwon without sitting for the required judiciary examination, an unprecedented move in the history of the prosecutor's office. Pak was promoted ahead of those seven to eight years his senior.

Kim Yong-sam's suspicions that Pak Chol-on was behind "intelligence politics" through the influence of NSP Director So Tong-kwon were therefore a very serious cause for alarm. To reach the presidency, three major factors are crucial—finances, organization, and intelligence. Without finances and intelligence, one will find it impossible to expand his organization. "Even if we are unable to secure control of the DLP at the national convention," the RDP faction notes, "momentum will still shift towards Cochairman Kim Yong-sam if only we can expand our sources of political funding. The old ruling party core knows this, and is working to prevent it from happening." This reflects the RDP faction's analysis of the prevailing situation.

Pak Chol-on's explosive statements deepened the RDP's conviction that this evaluation was correct. Cochairman Kim Yong-sam and the RDP faction began to entertain serious skepticism about the three parties merger after Pak made his statements.

Kim Yong-sam expressed his feelings accurately when he said, "They want to run me up a tree and then shake the hell out of the tree." The RDP faction believes that Chongwadae played a role in Pak's statements. This, the words and actions of the DJP faction leadership, and the 11 April evening meeting of key DJP figures at Chongwadae all serve to heighten the RDP faction's perception that it is fighting with its back against the wall.

RDP faction analysts say Kim Yong-sam expected to take a serious political blow but had no other choice than to launch an all-or- nothing struggle against National Assembly Deputy Pak Chol-on because of the way Kim perceived the situation.

Kim Yong-sam's Strategy for Winning the Presidency

Kim Yong-sam's short term goal is to take control of the DLP. In the long run, Kim intends to be president. He therefore concentrates maximum effort on enhancing his public image and pursuing such issues as election reform within the DLP. Kim has reached a point where he must expand his political organization. He also must avoid the risk of being "used and abandoned" by other factions within the party.

A national assemblyman and close aide to Cochairman Kim notes, "For some time now Kim has been following a three-phase strategy for winning power." The first phase extends up to the time of the national convention in May. The second phase leads up to the time when a constitutional revision for a cabinet-based system is adopted, and the final phase concludes with elections for the 14th National Assembly.

The DJP faction will exercise leadership during the first phase. Following Kim's selection as the senior cochairman at the convention, the status quo will change. Kim will launch an all-or-nothing struggle over the question of constitutional revision in the latter half of the second phase and emerge from the constitutional revision struggle with complete leadership of Korean political world in his pocket. Kim then hopes to exploit the gradual decline of President No's power during the latter half of his term. Source's say this is Kim's strategy.

The recent DLP discord, however, obliged Kim Yong-sam to make tactical revisions in his three-phase strategy. Kim will emerge from the May party convention as the supreme chairman, of course, due to his victory in the recent struggle. Phase two is expected to start smoothly. After a meeting with Kim Yong-sam on 14 April 1990, Kim Chong-pil noted that, "In the future, Kim Yong-sam will take the lead in party affairs." This suggests that some type of tacit agreement has already been reached regarding party operations.

The Pak Chol-on incident, however, will leave a lasting legacy, affecting directly and indirectly not just the future DLP operations and the party leadership structure, but also the very nature of national leadership itself.

The resignation of Pak Chol-on has already created a power vacuum within the DLP's DJP faction. Pak was No Tae-u's closest adviser as well as the president's liaison window with the party. Nor was that the full extent of Pak's influence. As the strongest figure in the DJP faction, Pak's clout extended into government itself. President No will have to assemble a new staff, and then attempt to create a new order within the DJP faction.

The DJP faction is expected to introduce fresh means for managing its subfactions, seizing on the opportunity afforded by President No's selection of a new surrogate to replace Pak Chol-on. Unfortunately, the DJP faction lacks personalities who have a popular support base who can challenge Kim Yong-sam or Kim Chong-pil. The launching of the DLP isolated nonmainstream members of the old DJP. But members of the nonmainstream, like Yi Chong-chan, Yi Han-tong, Kim Yun-hwan, Yi Chun-ku, and Sim Myong-po, have already undertaken to fill the power vacuum left by Pak Chol-on.

Three men emerge from these key figures as the ones to watch: Yi Chong-chan, Yi Han-tong, and Kim Yun-hwan.

Yi Chong-chan is regarded as the single DJP faction politician with the most popular support. Yi helped establish the DJP and has served in party posts like secretary general and floor leader since the Fifth Republic. Despite this background, Yi constantly has challenged the party leadership and has avoided being stigmatized as a Fifth Republic vestige.

Yi has devoted major effort to developing a support group of assembly deputies hailing from Seoul-area districts. Yi has formed a considerable power base in the Honam region also. More than 30 serving assemblymen attended the reorganization meeting for Yi's Chongno District party chapter, attesting to his formidable strength within the party. Yi eagerly attended party chapter reorganization meetings for other assemblymen during the party strife. Sources say his efforts exhausted him to the point that he had to be admitted to the hospital.

Key DJP Figures Attempt To Fill the Pak Chol-on Vacuum

Yi Han-tong is believed to be the individual who could marshal the most power within the DLP should the smaller factions within the DJP faction become fully active. Yi hails from Kyonggi Province's Pochon, and his regional support base is extensive. Yi is regarded as one of the key figures who could rally potential support among assemblymen from Kyonggi Province and Inchon, as well as from Kangwon Province. These numbers combined far exceed those of the TK [Taegu and Kyongsang Province] faction.

Because Yi's power is so extensive, Pak Chol-on and the Wolgaesu Association stepped on Yi's toes several times during the three parties merger process. Key members of the old DJP even went so far as to restrain and warn off Pak and the Wolgaesu Association.

Kim Yun-hwan will likely replace Pak Chol-on as first minister for political affairs, as well as the TK power faction's overseer. Popular opinion regards Kim as the most qualified individual for the ministerial portfolio, and sources say Kim himself actively desires the post. Kim was a classmate of President No at Kyongbuk High School and is likely to enjoy No's utmost confidence if Pak Chol-on remains out of the picture. Kim also is highly regarded by the RDP and New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP] factions within the DLP, as well as by key members of the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD]. This, of course, works strongly in Kim's favor.

The restructuring of the DJP faction will impact all the dynamic relationships within the DLP. A chain reaction may spread through the RDP and NDRP circles as well.

Cochairman Kim Yong-sam's position and reputation were enhanced in a number or respects by his victory in the internal party struggle. Kim is expected to exploit the momentum of his victory and the divisions within the DLP by launching a series of attacks on both the DJP and NDRP factions, attacks designed to put him in control of the party.

President No and the DJP faction were extremely disturbed at Kim Yong-sam's words and behavior during the recent crisis. Cochairman Kim is the second-in-command within the DLP, so his failure to attend the Chongwadae meeting and his complaints about "intelligence politics" must be seen as direct denouncements of President No himself.

The RDP faction's combined flaunting of its strength during the crisis especially upset the DJP and NDRP factions. The RDP behaved as though they were in a life-or-death struggle. This may have paved the way for future ill feelings within the party.

Cochairman Kim Yong-sam led his faction to victory in the first round of fighting, but one must understand that on the other hand his victory sent an emergency message to the DJP faction, telling the group that it must revert to maximum alert. Before the recent internecine struggle, the DJP faction may have thought it could "run Kim Yong-sam up a tree and then shake the hell out of the tree." But the DJP faction must now reconsider their estimate of Kim Yong- sam. Actually, prominent DJP faction figures always held an indifferent attitude towards Pak Chol-on and always held the joint perception that they must "Watch out for the RDP faction."

Assessments of Kim Yong-sam Change

The DJP faction's goal in the three parties merger and in their idea for subsequent management of the prevailing social and political situation in Korea was simply to realize a constitutional revision to implement a cabinet-based government, and if they failed at this they believed they could still choose the party's next presidential candidate due to their majority position within the DLP. If Kim Yong-sam mobilizes his strong public support to seize control of the DLP, or surfaces early as the sole DLP candidate for the presidency, the DJP faction cannot help but perceive this to be a threat to their existence.

The possibility is high, therefore, that President No and the DJP faction will pursue a close relationship with Cochairman Kim Chong-pil, who has already displayed his talents as a mediator between the DJP and RDP factions, and who has recently shown himself to be possessed of a most authoritative voice. The DJP faction needs to buy time until a new order has been established within the DLP. They are likely to pursue a behind-the-scenes partnership with Kim Chong-pil to prevent Kim Yong-sam from reaping too many benefits as a result of his recent political victory.

Pak Chol-on, meanwhile, finds himself in a rather advantageous position. Pak's resignation allows him to exercise influence as one who is close to President No while leaving him unencumbered by official duties or responsibilities. Pak is likely to "draw the picture" of what or whom will follow No's presidency. Regardless of the total shape of Pak's "picture," he unquestionably intends that it be disadvantageous to Kim Yong-sam, because Kim remains a threat to Pak. Certainly the RDP faction cannot stand by passively while Pak undertakes a political comeback. Prospects are high that Pak will need a substantial amount of time to return to the level of influence he enjoyed while operating at the highest political levels. Pak must ensure that Kim Yong-sam does not block his political comeback.

Neither the DJP nor NDRP leaders would truly benefit from a Pak Chol-on revival. Therefore, Cochairmen Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil may cooperate with leaders of the DJP faction to retard Pak Chol-on's return. This is unlikely to happen, however, until a little later in President No's term when his power begins to slip.

Cochairman Kim Yong-sam and the RDP faction have won a short term victory in the DLP. Some observers believe, however, that they will suffer substantial political damage in the long run. In a word, observers believe the internecine party struggle has diminished the strength of Kim Yong-sam's political ascent rather than increased it.

Kim Yong-sam's camp, on the other hand, believes that their victory in the party fight dropped a great many desirable things in their laps. They concede that Kim's image suffered much damage. But they also believe that their victory in the party struggle contributed immensely to Kim's increased control of the DLP and his eventual formation of power among the Korean people as well because it served as another example of Kim's unique politics of opportunity, which has proved to effectively influence public opinion.

The DJP faction will not relinquish party power easily. They appear willing to accept a plan by which general administration of the party, normally entrusted to a party president, would be entrusted to a supreme chairman. This is likely how the issue of party leadership will be concluded at the May national party convention. Such a plan would be agreeable to the RDP faction as well, who believe that as long as there is no further "intelligence politics" the above arrangement would not hinder their presidential strategy.

Dissension and confrontation in the DLP continue below the surface and will likely worsen. An atmosphere of trust and goodwill existed between President No and Kim Yong-sam based on their recognition of the other's right to coexist, politically. The same was true for Kim Chong-pil.

An all-out struggle is expected, however, over whether they should push to amend the Constitution for a cabinet-based government, or whether they should leave the presidential-based system intact, and if they leave it intact, then which of them should emerge as the party's presidential candidate. Pak Chol-on hinted strongly at this in March 1990 when he said, "When there is no suitable candidate within the DLP, then we can also recruit one from outside the party."

Speculation continues as to whether or not there was a secret agreement on who would succeed to power during the three-parties merger process. (In a 10 April statement, Pak Chol-on insisted that there was no secret agreement either about power succession or even over transfer of party power.) If we assume that Kim Yong-sam converted to the ruling party on the condition that a change be made in the way one assumes presidential power, then certainly something "strange" must be conceded to have occurred in the issue of Kim being entrusted with supreme power, which was to have met his condition for conversion.

Below-the-Surface Fighting To Be Fierce

In view of this, Cochairman Kim Yong-sam showed a considerable amount of self-restraint following the announcement of the three-parties merger. Kim lost patience over "intelligence politics," however, and decided to fight back. Kim also found himself in a position in which he had to demand reform-oriented politics in order to preserve his image as an opposition politician, an image he had built over the past 30 years. The RDP faction's voice was not adequately reflected in the DLP's policy making process, especially in regards to reform legislation such as the National Security Law, the NSP Law, or neutrality for prosecutors. The RDP also was excluded in the government's decision to back pedal on the real-name system. These factors may also have contributed to Kim's decision to openly contest intelligence politics. Currently, the DJP faction holds twice the number of assembly seats held by the RDP faction. Kim Yong-sam and the RDP are well aware that they will be finished if public opinion turns farther away from them.

Constitutional revision for a cabinet-based system will be less likely if President No distances himself from Kim Yong-sam. Even now, Cochairman Kim has not expressed a favorable attitude towards such an amendment, something the DJP faction must also take into account. Constitutional revision is a priority issue for the DJP faction, but they do not themselves control enough assembly seats to guarantee passage of a constitutional amendment. They need Kim Yong-sam, and nobody knows it better than the DJP faction itself. They also realize that the public prefers the current presidential system to a cabinet system. Mustering public support for the cabinet system is another big obstacle facing the DJP faction.

The DJP faction may prefer to find a "new man," or to throw its support behind one of the rising stars among the current crop of politicians. This may be easier than pushing a cabinet-based system. Kim Yong-sam, Kim Chong-pil, and the leaders of all the party factions, then, may devote additional efforts to polishing their image.

Rumors of a second partisan restructuring, early constitutional revision, or even an early assembly election will continually surface as the situation unfolds. Some believe that President No Tae-u and the DJP faction may resume behind-the-scenes contact with the opposition in pursuit of their long-term concept for managing the social and political situation.

Interaction Between Politics, Economy Recognized

SK2205022390 Seoul YONHAP in English
0149 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun hinted Tuesday that South Korea's current economic difficulty was caused by political instability, and said it was important to recognize the interaction between political and economic developments.

"The difficulty that our economy faces at present is not isolated from the political situation. The people's confidence in the government party is the foundation for their confidence in the government's policies," Yi said, sniping at the party.

The government and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party are apparently at odds regarding the scale of this year's supplementary budget and implementation of anti-real estate speculation measures.

Korea's chief economic planner said politics should present a long-term vision to people who are dissatisfied with the short-term effects of government policies, enabling them to wait patiently and trust in the government.

Yi, giving a lecture to businessmen attending a business management course organized by Seoul National University at a Seoul hotel, said labor disputes should be solved through dialogue and democratic changes inside companies since the use of the police to put down illegal actions cannot cure the basic cause of the conflicts.

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* Editorial on New Economic Team's Tasks

902C0176A Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 20 Mar 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The New Economic Team and Foreign Policy"]

[Text]

I

The tasks facing the Yi Sung-yun economic team in the international economic area are massive indeed.

It can be said that the line pursued by the previous team of Cho Sun, Yi Kyu-song and Han Sung-su in foreign economic relations was generally a success—although one might consider it impolite to the newly named team to discuss predecessors' records here. In trade diplomacy with the United States in particular, the preceding team did, one may say, a fairly successful job coping with developments by effectively combining reality and principle.

The new team, however, as was already disclosed at a press conference, apparently is putting its policy focus on promoting exports, grasping our economy as export-led. It appears to be considering lower interest rates in export financing and an additional devaluation of the won currency, and even financial support for export businesses if necessary.

Apart from the question of the effectiveness of this policy, whether or not it will gain the understanding of the advanced countries—they have closely been watching our foreign economic policy line—is probably a problem more serious than the new team thinks it is. The fact is that between Korea and the United States now, arguments over the recently introduced daily market average system in determining the exchange rate and the won devaluation have escalated into a verbal war over whether Korea is an exchange rate manipulator.

If, under these circumstances, the new economic team should take a step to hike the exchange rate as part of export recovery measures, the resultant pressures on us are as clear as day. The U.S. screening to designate countries for priority negotiations is scheduled for next month and if Korea should be named among the Class-A countries in this screening, it would mean that the Sung-yun team is falling into a dreadful ambush only one month after taking office.

Also, speaking of a cutback on the interest rates or financial support for specific sectors, it should be noted that this is not the 1960's or 1970's and that it is no longer possible to carry out such measures merely for the sake of domestic growth. They run counter to the "super" Section 301 of the U.S. omnibus trade act and various other international norms and will now more likely provoke retaliation by countries involved.

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Besides the matter of trade friction, there is a major pending problem involved. Korea no longer belongs to the GATT Section 18-B group of countries (permitted to restrict imports for the reason of deficits in their international balance of payment). Instead, it now belongs to the Section-11 group that can be considered an advanced group. Also, it became one of the IMF Section-8 countries in 1988 and, therefore, is not allowed to arbitrarily regulate foreign exchange.

Furthermore, the OECD meeting, beginning in Seoul on 20 March, suggests that the world's industrialized nations recognize Korea as an economically developed country; in particular, the fact that this meeting, traditionally an exclusive event held only in a member country, is being held in Korea, a nonmember, hints at an imminent membership for our country.

This imposes on the Yi Sung-yun team the task to make clear our country's positive foreign economic policy keynote, both domestically and internationally. We have indeed heard enough of such slogans as internationalization and openness but in fact it is extremely doubtful whether we really have made any substantive commitments to various international organizations to push our economy up onto advanced levels and whether we really have lived up to such commitments, if any.

Especially, do the newly named economic ministers—who in the past played the principal role in the then popular growth drive—fully realize the gravity of this atmosphere of international economic relations and the foreign expectations of the Korean economy? We are deeply concerned about it.

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There is another foreign policy task and it concerns the northern policy. On account of the USSR's political structural change and the resultant appeasement policy toward our country as well as the East European nations' rapprochement with South Korea, the government's Nordpolitik appears to be working all right, diplomatically. In the field of economic policy, however, numerous problems remain to be solved and the list of things to be done is long.

First of all, there is a fundamental question: Is our economic rapprochement under Nordpolitik dedicated primarily to seeking profits in exports, imports and foreign investments, or is it part of a circuitous strategy to prod North Korea to open up? Or is it for both? The new economic team should give it careful thought. If the first is the case, the government should leave it up to self-regulating and voluntary advances by entrepreneurs and must not try to control them. If that is not what the rapprochement is for, the government should move to minimize the risk involved in the northern approach.

The need for such a move is particularly great with our trade with China. Investment applications already approved by the Chinese Government alone number 33 cases worth $28 million, including 18 overseas affiliated firms. Although seemingly insignificant in total size, Korean investments are on the increase at an amazing rate. Nevertheless, it cannot but be a serious problem that those business activities in China are going on mostly without any intergovernmental consultations, and with no surety insurance at all. The problem might be even more serious if this situation is basically a product of our strategy to induce an open North Korea.

If the new economic team is indeed committed to boosting the object economy, it should show an extraordinary foresight in establishing a strategy of internationalization for our economy, too. It is because the three or four rabbits as referred to by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung- yun should all leap in the same direction.

1989 Balance of Payments Surplus Drops 64 Percent

SK2105020490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0142 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 21 (YONHAP)—South Korea had an international balance of payments surplus of 5.05 billion u.S. Dollars last year, down 64.3 percent from 1988, the Bank of Korea said Monday.

The current account surplus fell 42.3 percent to 6.1 billion dollars with the United States, 58.3 percent to

880 million dollars with the European Community (EC) and 13.8 percent to 2.63 billion dollars with Southeast Asia, according to the central bank. In addition, Korea's deficit with Japan expanded 18.4 percent to 1.61 billion dollars and that with the Middle East jumped 658 percent to 1.44 billion dollars.

In trade, Korea ran a deficit with Japan and the Middle East, but a surplus with the United States, the EC and Southeast Asia, the bank said. Exports to the United States, however, dropped 4.9 percent compared to a 24.4 percent increase in imports, expanding the U.S. share of Korea's imports from 23.8 percent to 25.1 percent while decreasing the Korean share of U.S. imports from 4.8 percent to 4.2 percent.

Trade with Japan grew 11.8 percent in exports and 8.1 percent in imports. Korea's dependence on imports from Japan fell from 31.7 percent to 29.1 percent, and the ratio of Korean goods to Japan's total imports slid from 7.2 percent to 6.9 percent.

Exports decreased 7.5 percent with the EC and 6.5 percent with the Middle East, compared to a 14.3-percent increase with Southeast asia.

Imports grew 8.7 percent with the EC, 19.4 percent with Southeast Asia and 36.8 percent with the Middle East.

307 Items for Import Substitution Listed

SK1905012690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0112 GMT 19 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 19 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government released a list of 307 imports Saturday [19 May] that are priority for domestic development.

The Trade and Industry Ministry estimated that replacing the imports with domestically made items would save 700 million U.S. dollars in import costs and generate an additional 500 million dollars from exports.

The import substitute items are 129 machines and machinery parts, 76 electric and electronic parts, 59 materials, 31 auto parts and 12 instruments for ships. They include numerically controlled centerless grinding machines, main pumps for excavators, microthermometers and rifled tubes.

At least 50 percent of each of the listed items are imported from Japan at an annual cost of 500,000 dollars for machinery and materials and 100,000 dollars for the others, the Ministry said.

Korean companies developing these items are eligible for loans from several state funds, including the special fund for investment, which carries an 8 percent annual interest rate over a 10-year repayment period.

The government has announced 3,057 import substitute items since 1986, of which 1,431 were developed, saving 3.2 billion dollars in imports and adding 2.1 billion dollars to exports, according to the Ministry.

Container Shipping Line To Open Global Service

SK2005014990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 20 May 90 p 8

[Text] Choyang Shipping Co., one of Korea's major container lines, will launch round-the-world service early next year in a consortium with two European lines, a company official said yesterday.

This will be the second round-the-world shipping service in the world, following Evergreen Line of Taiwan.

Pae Sun, executive managing director of Choyang, said his company signed tripartite agreement with a West German line to form a consortium for the round-the-world service in San Francisco early this month.

The West German firm is Senator Line and the East German partner is the state-run Deutfracht Seereederei Rostock (DSR).

They agreed to deploy a total of 24 container vessels on the weekly service for the round-the-world route—from the Far East, Europe, transatlantic, east coast of the United States and the Far East in that order.

Pae said Choyang and Senator Line will share 42.5 percent each of the total equity capital and the remaining 15 percent will go to the East German line, DSR.

Choyang will provide eight vessels, Senator Line will offer 10 vessels and DSR six ships. Choyang will provide an additional two vessels late in 1992.

The three shipping companies also plan to improve current container shipping service on the northern Europe-Mediterranean-Middle East-India-Southeast Asian route being provided by DSR as a separate service from the round-the-world one.

Pae said the consortium aims at enhancing vessel operating efficiency and cargo collecting ability, by unifying the vessels and service routes of the individual lines.

In particular, the Korean company will be able to evade probable protectionist moves of the European Community when European market are unified in 1992, he explained.

To efficiently operate their vessels and manage business, they agreed to form a joint operation center, Pae said, adding that headquarters of the center will open in Bremen, West Germany, on July 1 this year.

Regional centers will also be set up in Seoul and a yet to be named port on the western U.S. coast to swiftly solve problems concerning the operation of vessels under the consortium and to cope with the rapidly changing world shipping environment, he noted.

Choyang also plans to set up corporations in Hamburg and Bremen on July 1 to actively promote cargo collecting business in third countries.

The consortium with an East German shipping company will greatly help Korea advance to East European regions and to contribute to economic cooperation with Germany after the unification, a shipping expert noted.

Burma

Information Committee Holds 91st News Conference

BK1905090090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 May 90

[Excerpts] The information committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council held its 91st news conference with local and foreign journalists at 1300 today in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense. [passage omitted] At the news conference the information committee explained a request from a U.S. congressman to visit Myanmar [Burma]; rumors; the capture of Aung Hein, joint treasurer of the ABSDF [All Burma Students Democratic Front] insurgent organization; a BBC report on forced repatriation of 30 Myanmar citizens by Thailand; further explanation on a letter from U Tin U [imprisoned chairman of the National League for Democracy], which had been explained at the 88th news conference; matters relating to submission of correct biographical data of candidates; and election campaigning within the framework of law.

In explaining the request from a U.S. congressman to visit Myanmar, the information committee first explained that on 16 May the U.S. Embassy in Yangon [Rangoon] in letter No. 03381 to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the government of Myanmar applied for a visa for Steven J. Solarz, who is chairman of the Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs of the U.S. House of Representatives, to visit Myanmar on 27-28 May 1990. It explained that the purpose of the U.S. congressman's visit was to observe the voting on the day of the multiparty democratic general elections. It also contained two points: 1. that a guarantee be given to him to freely visit the polling booths; 2. to make arrangements for him to meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

U.S. Congressman Solarz visited Myanmar on 4 September during the events of 1988 and met with politically active persons, including U Aung Gyi; U Tin U; Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; and the then president, Dr. Maung Maung. During his talks with Dr. Maung Maung, Solarz showed disrespect for our sovereignty by suggesting that the State Constitution of Myanmar be set aside and an interim government be formed for administering the country.

During his meeting with U Tin U, Solarz asked U Tin U what his stand would be if the Defense Services staged a coup. U Tin U said it would be good if the Defense Services staged a coup. It has been learned from the writings of U Tin U that he himself opposes neocolonialism and external intervention and does not want to see disintegration of the Defense Services. Solarz is aware of the positive nature of the military coup. However, since the assumption of state power by the Defense Services on 18 September 1988, he has constantly opposed the national reconstruction tasks carried out by the leaders of the country—the State Law and Order Restoration Council—in establishing law and order and constructing democracy. He has constantly supported and instigated activities aimed at creating misunderstanding among the American people and creating opposition and unrest against the government within Myanmar.

Judging from the demands for Solarz itinerary, we feel the time is not appropriate to accept such a person in Myanmar. The person he wishes to see is currently subjected to restriction by law and has been disqualified from the elections. [passage omitted] Therefore, it will not be appropriate for Solarz to meet that person. [passage omitted] According to Resolution No. 2625 (25) of the United Nations General Assembly held in 1970, a country has no right to intervene in internal and external affairs of another country directly or indirectly. Therefore, we have replied that we cannot agree to the visit of Congressman Solarz to Myanmar. [passage omitted]

Under the electoral system chosen by Myanmar, ballot sheets will be taken out from the ballot boxes in view of the public, and polling booth officers will count the votes in the presence of the general public, including representatives of candidates concerned. The 40 million people of Myanmar will decide whether the elections are free and fair. It is not necessary for any representative from outside to observe the elections on behalf of the Myanmar people. [passage omitted] However, a ban on entry of foreigners into the country has not been imposed. It is also not necessary to impose such a ban. Those deserving will be allowed entry.

Next, the information committee discussed rumors being circulated. We have learned that all kinds of rumors are emerging as the elections approach. [passage omitted] The rumors are totally unfounded. We shall present the rumors we have heard so the public will be aware: —There have been rumors in Pabedan that the youth wing of the National League for Democracy [NLD] has warned the public not to go on long trips outside the township after 15 May and to store up rice.

—Something will happen in the country on 18 May or 22 May, but it is not known what exactly will happen. Some are taking bets on whether or not it will take place. [passage omitted]

—Public servants will be given salary advances on 15 May, as the general elections will take place on 27 May.

—There are rumors in Sanchaung Township that the elections will not end peacefully and that unrest is bound to happen again. Therefore, kitchen supplies such as rice, salt, and cooking oil should be purchased.

—There are rumors that the NLD and the LDP [League for Democracy and Peace] headquarters will be declared by the government as unlawful organizations around 15 and 20 May 1990. There is also talk that bans will be imposed on visas to enter Myanmar in order to preempt subversive acts from outside and that external communications will be censored. [passage omitted]

—There are also rumors that around 25 and 26 May posts for electric mains at the Yangon city limits will be destroyed and that action will be taken to stop all traffic throughout Yangon on 27 May. [passage omitted]

—There are rumors among people in wards in Botataung Township that beginning 25 May all train and car transport routes will be cut off and that it will be necessary to store rice, salt, and cooking oil. The rumor says that if the NLD does not do well in the elections, it has a plan to instigate disturbances in the country on 28 May. [passage omitted]

—There are rumors that ballots cast in advance by soldiers before departing for front line have been opened.

—Not only in our country, but in the United States, one Richard Aung Myint held 200 one-kyat currency notes. He said the number one on the obverse side appears to be a shape of a seat and that there are number eight's [implication of 8-8-1988 events] inside the seat. It was said that the water mark does not look like General Aung San, but looks like Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and that there are pictures of a Khamauk hat [NLD election symbol] on the border of the note. He claimed that new one-kyat currency notes in Myanmar are being recalled and that the designer of the note has been arrested. We learned he has been selling the one-kyat note for a dollar after making these unfounded comments.

We would like to say that these rumors are incorrect. [passage omitted] Please do not believe these unfounded rumors. Similar rumors are likely to be fabricated in the future to make political and economic progress according to circumstances. Please beware.

Next, the information committee explained the exposure and arrest of Aung Hein, joint treasurer of the ABSDF. [passage omitted] Aung Hein was arrested during a search of passengers boarding a Yangon-Kawthaung flight at 1300 on 28 April 1990 at Kawthaung. He was arrested along with 41 baht weight in gold, one Mido watch, 10,500 kyat, and some pictures. [passage omitted]

Next, in explaining the expulsion of 30 Myanmar citizens from Thailand reported by the BBC, the information committee said that at 2015 on 4 May 1990 the BBC carried a report on the expulsion of over 30 Myanmar citizens by Thailand as follows:

Officers in Thailand had said that 30 dissidents who opposed the military government in Myanmar had been forcefully repatriated despite a warning from international cirlcles that their lives could be in danger. It was reported that the dissidents were put on a motorboat in Ranong in the southwestern part of Thailand. Some reports said there were Myanmar soldiers on board. Many persons have fled to Thailand following clashes between Myanmar government troops and insurgents near the border; currently there are about 40,000 Myanmar refugees.

The report contained in the broadcast is not correct. What we know is that the Thai authorities sent the Myanmar citizens back to our side via Ranong after taking legal action for violating the immigration law. We learned they did not arrive in Kawthaung [town on Burmese side of the border] after leaving Ranong, but they went back to where they came from. We learned from the news we received that the number of persons was not 30 as reported by the BBC, but 68. [passage omitted]

The news conference ended at 1440.

Army Forces Citizens To Join 'Death Marches'

BK1805031590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 May 90 p 4

[Article by James Pringle]

[Text] Maeletta, Burma—They were singing Baptist hymns in a little wooden church on the hillside here in Maeletta, while in the river below there floated a grisly reminder of the vicious war being fought along Burma's borders: the corpse of a man with his wrists bound together behind his back.

Burma's ruthless military rulers have become so desperate in pursuing their war against ethnic minorities and Burmese rebel students along the frontier with Thailand that they are now press-ganging ordinary Burmese citizens to act as porters and human mine-sweepers in the frontier regions, Burmese who have escapd say. These journeys are little better than death marches. Those who resist, or are too weak to carry the burdens of ammunition and food, or to bear wounded Burmese soldiers on makeshift stretchers, are knocked to the ground, smashed with rifle butts, kicked with army boots, then have their arms pinned behind their backs and are tosssed into rivers, the escapees adds.

The beautiful Salween River here is polluted with the dead as the military-run State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), which rules Burma at the behest of strongman Ne Win, tries to suppress the minorities and the students in the run-up to elections on May 27—elections that few foreign diplomats in Rangoon believe will be fair. Leading opposition candidates are in jail or under house arrest.

As this correspondent arrived by motorised longboat at Maeletta, while the Christian Karen inhabitants sang hymns at morning service, the body of a man with his arms tied behind his back floated past in the water. Villagers say it is a familiar sight here. Talks with a dozen press-ganged Burmese porters who have fled to Maeletta—the lucky ones who escaped alive—reveal the extent of the the repression in Burma in areas outside the capital where no foreigners, including diplomats accredited to Rangoon, can now visit. And most of those seized have had no connection with pro-democracy demonstrations, bloodily suppressed in September 1988, they say. The majority are ordinary Burmese townspeople or villagers.

"Sometimes they shoot them first, but at other times they are still alive when they are kicked into the water," said Khin Maung Twe, aged 33, an ethnic Burmese, referring to the dead man in the river. Mr Khin Maung Twe, a tailor by profession, was the exception—one who said he had taken part in pro-democracy demonstrations, and this may be one reason he was picked up by police in Kyaikto, a coastal town east of Rangoon, last month.

After spending a night in the cells, he was handed over to the army, transported to the foot of the eastern Dawna mountain range, then given twelve 62mm mortar shells to carry. He said he had not been permitted to say goodbye to his wife and children before he left. "We porters walked for four days up and down mountains with our heavy loads, and all of us were exhausted," he said. "We had not enough to eat—just a Carnation milk tin of rice a day—and we were too weak to carry our burdens. Those who tried to rest were beaten and kicked." There were about 200 porters for the 300 soldiers in the battalion he was with, which was seeking to attack Karen bases, he said. Six of his fellow porters, all ethnic Burmese, made a break for it at dusk one evening, jumping into the Salween River to attempt to swim to the other side. "The soldiers just opened fire on them in the water, shooting them in the back," he said. "I watched five of my friends die. Only one escaped to the other side."

A few nights later, Khin Maung Twe made his own bid for freedom, escaping just after dusk. He managed to swim across the river, and met up by chance with the earlier surviving escapee. Together they walked two days to this Karen village. "The soldiers told us the Karens woud kill us, but we were willing to take the risk," he said. "Anything was better than bearing the beatings and the abuse from the troops." He said the Karens had treated them with kindness, and although they did not have much for themselves they had shared it.

Another escaped porter, Mali Tun, broke into tears as he recounted how, one night, his four-year-old son became sick and he told his wife he would take him to the local hospital. The boy, Maung Tin Soe, was kept overnight for observation, while his father, a casual labourer, walked home. On the way, he was stopped by Burmese soldiers who said they needed to talk to him. At first, he was not too alarmed, because he had not taken part in any pro-democracy demonstrations, he said. But later he was trucked with other press-ganged porters to the mountains. He wept as he told this correspondent he was not even able to say goodbye to his wife and six other children. "As far as my wife knows, I just never came back from the hospital," he said. "In the mountains, we were made to walk ahead of the soldiers, as human mine-sweepers. Some of my fellow porters were blown up," said Mali Tun, who still bears the scars of beatings he received.

A report this month by the US Committee for Refugees says that, since 1984, countless numbers of ethnic minority peoples have been forced into porterage for the Burmese army, but that now ethnic Burmese are being press-ganged. "Reports say that as many as 3,000 Rangoon residents may have been forced into porterage last October and November alone," said Court Robinson, a Refugee Committee representative. He said that at least 1,000 political prisoners had been press-ganged into porterage, taking part in what some had called a "death march." "The ethnic minorities in the frontier remain the primary victims of this form of abuse," added Robinson, "But since the September 1988 crackdown, the practice has become increasingly prevalent in urban areas and populations."

What accounts for the brutality of the Burmese army to their fellow citizens? According to Aung Htoo, a Burmese student leader at a border camp, the officers are a privileged elite in Burmese society, a caste apart, with access to special perks. "The common soldiers are peasant boys and lumpen proletariat who don't know any better," he said. Maw Si, the Karen administrator here at Maeletta said: "Our own resources are limited, but we are doing our best to feed and look after those who escape the Burmese army. Perhaps now people will begin to understand what the ethnic minorities have suffered all these years."

Cambodia

Sihanouk To Sign Thai-Japan Drafted Accord

BK2205013590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 May 90 p 3

[Excerpt] Prince Norodom Sihanouk reiterated yesterday he would sign a "peace agreement" with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen when they meet in Tokyo next month, but implied it would only bind himself and not the other resistance factions. Talking to China's official XINHUA News Agency in Phum Sereipheap in Cambodia opposite the Thai province of Surin, Sihanouk said he would not have any "text of his own to propose" in Tokyo. The prince made the comment after the BANGKOK POST reported on Monday that three of the four warring Cambodian factions had signed a document to be announced in Tokyo next month agreeing in principle that a ceasefire was necessary as soon as possible.

Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut arranged for Sihanouk, Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan and Hun Sen to sign the document. Nationalist leader Son Sann is expected to sign the document soon.

"Personally, I do not have any text to propose and I simply promise to approve and to sign any text of Cambodian peace that would be submitted to me by Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut of Thailand, knowing how sincere Thailand and Japan are in their desire to see Cambodia regaining peace with national reconciliation." But the prince said:

"My signature will only commit myself and, if he gives me his approval, my son Prince Norodom Ranariddh, who has recently succeeded me as chief of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and Supreme Commander of the Army of Royalist Sihanoukists (ANKI, ex-ANS)." He said that while in Tokyo, if the Japanese and Thai governments "wish that Sihanouk sees Hun Sen and that I sign a peace agreement with Hun Sen, I shall do so." "But it will be necessary that the text, in full, of this agreement be drafted either by Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut alone or Gen Chawalit and a senior Japanese government personality," the prince said. [passage omitted]

Sihanouk Confirms Cease-Fire, Predicts Fighting

BK2205100890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0959 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Sereipheap, Cambodia, May 22 (AFP)—Cambodia's former Monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk said here Tuesday that a ceasefire in Cambodia was to be signed shortly. But the prince predicted that this would lead to an "intensification of the war" as the ceasefire would not come under immediate international control. This would lead the warring Cambodian factions, particularly the Khmer Rouge, to fight for control of more territory before an international control mechanism (ICM) were formed.

(Meanwhile in Tokyo Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Prince Sihanouk would meet Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen as planned on June 4 and 5 in the Japanese capital. ("We have received a favourable response from Prince Sihanouk and Mr. Hun Sen to hold the conference", he said. (Prince Sihanouk said earlier this month that he would not meet Mr. Hun Sen but would be taking a long leave of absence from politics. Mr. Nakayama said he had received Monday a communication indicating that Prince Sihanouk would represent the three guerrilla factions fighting the Cambodian government. The three are the prince's own supporters, those loyal to former Prime Minister Son Sann and the Marxist Khmer Rouge, toppled in 1979 by the invading Vietnamese who installed a client government in Phnom Penh.)

Sihanouk Denounces Hanoi's 'Slanderous Comment'

BK1905034890 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] On 15 May 1990, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia, issued a statement denouncing and condemning the Hanoi authorities who slandered the samdech on Hanoi radio on 14 May because they were angry at the samdech's refusal to meet with their puppet, Hun Sen. In this slanderous comment, the Hanoi authorities accused the samdech of thinking only of his individual interests and threatened that the samdech must hurry up or else he would miss the so-called last train.

In his statement, the samdech noted that if he thought only of his own personal interests, he would have hurried up to take that so-called train, that is to hold talks with the Vietnamese puppets. The samdech stressed that the train the Vietnamese want him to take is the Vietnamese colonialist train, a train that has enabled Vietnam to occupy Cambodia as a fait accompli and betrayed Cambodia in serving the Vietnamese attempt to annex Cambodia. The samdech made the statement: I refuse to take this ignominious Vietnamese train. I must defend the interests of Cambodia and its future.

In conclusion, his statement pointed out: Vietnam has openly shown the world it is the master of Cambodia under the regime of Hun Sen and his company. This is because first, Vietnam has objected to my entry into the zone controlled by Hun Sen; second, it has threatened me for refusing to take the ignominious train of the Vietnamese colonialists in Cambodia.

Sihanouk Delivers Message on Return to Cambodia

BK2005091990 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 18 May 90

[Message from Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia, to Buddhist monks and Cambodian compatriots; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] I, Norodom Sihanouk, would like to pay respects to venerable monks and extend my salutations and greetings with profound affection to all compatriots, brothers, sisters, children, relatives, grandparents, uncles, and aunts whom I, Samdech Euv Norodom Sihanouk, love and miss very much.

Today, I would like to send this message—which is not prepared in writing in accordance with my habit of intimately communicating with all of you through radio as members of the same family, as we usually did in the past and have been doing until now—to all children and venerable monks. As usual, Samdech Euv would like to communicate with all children and venerable monks without having to prepare anything in advance. I would like to speak to all of you with earnest sincerity and from my heart.

Today, I would like to inform venerable monks and all grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and children that on 7 May 1990 I let the nation, international community, and all countries in the world know that I have decided to stop working in the national resistance movement. I declared my fervent desire to go to Phnom Penh and various provinces currently controlled by the government and administration of the communist party with Hun Sen as prime minister.

In the past, when I met and talked with Mr. Hun Sen, prime minister of the Phnom Penh regime, which is a satellite to the SRV and colludes with the Vietnamese colonialists, Mr. Hun Sen told me that samdech should desert the resistance movement that includes the Khmer Rouge—that is, the tripartite Democratic Kampuchean group. He sadi samdech should turn to side and work with your children on the other side of society. At that time, I did not follow Mr. Hun Sen's invitation because my duty and obligation is to carry on the struggle to liberate our Cambodian motherland from the claws of Vietnamese colonialists. Their desire is to annex our Cambodian territory, oppress our Cambodia, lord it over Cambodia, send the Vietnamese people to settle in Cambodian territory in place of the Cambodian people, and do anything possible to turn our present Cambodia into another Kampuchea Kraom, which we lost in the 19th Century because the Vietnamese aggressors annexed the whole of our Kampuchea Kraom and turned it into a Vietnamese territory called South Vietnam.

Now, I want to change this policy only because the overwhelming majority of our compatriots both inside and outside the country and the majority of Buddhist monks have persistently made their plea to me through letters and secret messages, particularly those secret messages from Phnom Penh. They said: The 7 million children of the samdech miss you very much. Samdech Euv should stop fighting and come back to reunify the nation. Please come to Phnom Penh and other cities, provinces, precincts, districts, and even villages in our country, even though our country is not yet completely liberated from the Vietnamese colonialists. All of us place our hope only on Samdech Euv Norodom Sihanouk, who used to take good care of us and safeguard our national independence and territorial integrity. If the samdech comes, the problem of war can be resolved and national reconciliation can be achieved, thus bringing back happiness and enabling the poor citizens and the entire nation to enjoy a better life as during the Sangkum Reas Niyom era—the era of the Kingdom of Cambodia; national independence with our territorial integrity; and equal honor like all other countries, as we used to enjoy in the past. The samdech can save our suffering people from misery and help them to regain peace, happiness, and equal honor like all other nations and to rebuild and make our nation prosperous.

I, for several months, could not sleep well, thinking about this matter. I have been thinking that I, Norodom Sihanouk—who have been called father of the nation and Samdech Euv, a great name kindly given to me by the Cambodian compatriots—have never wanted any position, either as the head of state or as king. I only want to be called father of the Cambodian people. Now that I have been given this name, what should I do next? Should I fight on, or should I go to help my children, particularly those in the outlying remote districts and villages who need everything?

I should help to rebuild the ruined monasteries in outlying remote areas and help the people in many outlying Cambodian villages under the Hun Sen-Vietnamese control who are suffering shortages of everything. They have no medicine or medical personnel to give them treatment when they are sick. People in most of these villages are short of food, and many children died from illness and lack of food. Agriculture is also being ruined. There are shortages of schools and teachers. Handicrafts and agriculture, formerly our prosperous establishments, no longer exist. This economic establishment is now in ruins. People have suffered uncountable misery and suffering. Some have been maimed from war. Some have been separated from their families. This is why—even if the tripartite resistance movement might denounce me as a traitor wanting to serve the Vietnamese—I have willingly asked for permission from the Hun Sen group to allow me to return to serve our people and monks inside the country. This is to achieve national reconciliation so all the various factions will end their strangling of each other and turn to contribute to the efforts to quickly restore peace for our people. This is so our nation and people will quickly regain peace, national unity, and full national independence with territorial integrity.

However, today and yesterday I received clear reports that the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin-Chea Sim regime, the regime of the Khmer Viet Minh communists, and their Vietnamese boss, have rejected my request. Moreover, I have been criticized, denounced, and accused—through the radio and propaganda machines of these Khmer Viet Minh elements and their Vietnamese boss—of wanting to return to Cambodia to bring the Pol Pot clique along. They have accused me of colluding with the Khmer Rouge in massacring and shedding blood of the Cambodian people. This is absolutely untrue. All our monks, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and children know well that I have never colluded with the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge clique in massacring the people. What I have done all along was try to prevent them from doing so.

Mr. Hun Sen and his men were former Khmer Rouge; therefore, they are the ones involved with this massacring. As for me, I have nothing to do with it. Members of my family suffered even more seriously than many other families in Cambodia because of the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge crimes. I know, with the exception of the Khmer Rouge elements, every Cambodian family has suffered at the hands of the Pol Pot-Khmer Rouge elements. Many members of my family, male and female alike, were tortured to death. Even my grandchildren, newborn babies, were also massacred mercilessly.

I have waged the struggle only in order to regain national independence with territorial integrity for our Cambodian nation. I have not waged this struggle to help Pol Pot or the Khmer Rouge, and I did not make this request in order to bring back the Khmer Rouge with me. As a matter of fact, the Khmer Rouge have begged me not to go there, not to serve Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and the Vietnamese. They asked me to remain in the resistance movement, to suit the samdech's status as head of the independent Cambodian state and head of the resistance movement and samdech's prestige as being the most outstanding patriot since the onset, since time immemorial. Therefore, the samdech should stay with the resistance movement and should not go to Phnom Penh.

This clearly shows that I will go there without the Khmer Rouge. I will go there with only some good nationalists and intellectuals who want to come along. I have no intention to bring any bad nationalists along. I will select only those who are really very good and have clean hands. Moreover, I will be escorted by international journalists, UN representatives, and government representatives of various countries that cherish peace, freedom, justice, and progress, who want to help our poor people in restoring their normal life and rebuilding our ruined Cambodia to make it prosperous again as during the Sangkum Reas Niyom era. They will escort me there to work with Mr. Hun Sen's group.

Why have Mr. Hun Sen and his group refused to allow me to come to pay respects to our monks and meet our grandparents, brothers, sisters, and children who have missed Samdech Euv and always wanted him to be with them? Why have Mr. Hun Sen and his associates rejected the request of Samdech Euv Sihanouk?

There are three reasons. They are afraid that if Samdech Euv goes there, our people, nation, and monks will come out in great numbers to embrace and greet him. Mr. Hun Sen and his associates are afraid I will be more powerful and popular than they are. They are afraid of losing face before the national and international public and the world community for being less popular than Samdech Sihanouk and because the people love Samdech Sihanouk more than them and their regime, which is as corrupt as the Lon Nol regime. They are even worse, because they have sold out the nation, territory, and national resources to foreigners and allowed Vietnam to alter our nation's border demarcation. No one, no real Cambodian patriot, wants such a traitorous regime. Cambodian patriots do not want such a regime. This is the first reason Mr. Hun Sen and his group rejected Samdech Sihanouk's request for permission to return to his country.

Another reason is that Hun Sen is afraid our people will learn about his design to allow the Vietnamese civilians to replace our people and nibble away at our land. The people know this. He is afraid that if the samdech returns to help the people defend their interests and bring prosperity to the people, particularly the ordinary citizens, his Vietnamese boss will be angry with him. He is afraid his boss will blame him for allowing Sihanouk to return to protect the Cambodian people. Hun Sen is afraid his boss will blame him for not keeping his promise that after he gained power and gathered wealth he would allow his boss to send Vietnamese people to grab Cambodian people's land and property, massacre the Cambodian people, and turn Cambodia into another Kampuchea Kraom. This is the second reason.

The third reason concerns his great guilt in allowing Vietnam to alter the Cambodian-Vietnam border demarcation in a way that has enabled Vietnam to gain a large piece of Cambodian territory. Moreover, he has allowed the Vietnamese people to nibble at Cambodian territory and destroy our Cambodia's national resources. He has even allowed the Vietnamese to control and settle in some provinces, such as Mondolkiri, Ratanakiri, and Stung Treng.

This is a great wound or guilt he wants to conceal from the international journalists, UN representatives, and delegates of various countries who are to escort the samdech on his journey to bring material means for the Cambodian people. If he allows them to come, they will certainly see all his guilt in committing corruption and selling out his nation to Vietnam. He is afraid they will see the Vietnamese troops currently assisting him. Some victories he has claimed are just because of the Vietnamese troops that have returned to help him. He is afraid all these facts will be revealed. This is the reason Hun Sen and his associates ridicule and unreasonably accuse Samdech Sihanouk of wanting to return to Cambodia only because he intends to bring the Khmer Rouge along.

This accusation is totally groundless. Not a single Khmer Rouge man will escort Samdech Sihanouk on this trip. What Hun Sen fears most is that his guilt will be seen by the good Cambodians, the non-Khmer Rouge Cambodians, who will accompany the samdech on the trip. He is afraid they will see the facts about his selling out the country to Vietnam. He is afraid all the facts will be witnessed by the international journalists, UN representatives, and foreign delegates coming to help the Cambodian people in humanitarian, social, and economic fields. He is afraid once all the facts are revealed, he and his regime will be endangered and Vietnam's colony will collapse. Although Samdech Sihanouk said he would not get involved with politics, those who will escort Samdech Sihanouk—both the good Cambodians and the international representatives—will certainly see his guilt and the facts about his betraying and selling the nation to Vietnam.

These are the reasons why Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and their company dare not allow Samdech Sihanouk to return. This is why I am very sad and sorry for not being able to return to our country to serve my children, particularly those common citizens whom I love most and who used to be very close to me. I have given them all kinds of aid to enable them to lead their lives in the same manner as all other people. It is very sad for me not to be able to meet all of you. I am very sorry for not being able to help promote our Buddhist religion, particularly in the outlying remote areas. Those in the cities do not face as many problems as the people in poor villages, where there are shortages of everything and where monasteries, schools, and hospitals are in ruins. Some villages have no doctors, clinics, or schools. Monasteries in some villages are in disrepair. This is why I want to help repair them for the nation, people, and monks. However, I cannot go because they will not allow me. I regret it so much.

It is so unfortunate for me not to get this only chance, as I am growing older. I am nearly 70 years old now. I will be 70 within one and a half years. At this age, I do not know how much longer I can live. I am afraid of not being able to meet our monks, children, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and all relatives who miss me and want to see me again. I cannot go to see you because Hun Sen said he would not allow me to go back.

In addition to rejecting my request, Hun Sen criticized and denounced me through his propaganda machinery. The whole world is stunned over his acts of insulting and rejecting Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's request, which constitutes a great, historic opportunity for all Cambodians to reconcile, reunite, and enjoy peace again, because Samdech Sihanouk has decided to return to the country. This clearly shows that Mr. Hun Sen does not love the people and the nation at all. He thinks only about betraying the nation and gaining power, rank, and wealth for himself, his associates, and their families. He does not care about our monks, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and children who want Samdech Euv to help salvage our nation now, the only good opportunity for us to put an end to the war. This is the real, abominable face of the Hun Sen regime in Phnom Penh, which serves the Vietnamese.

I would like to conclude this special message now. I would like to ask all monks, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, children, and all compatriots whom I respect and love most to judge this matter by yourselves. I do not have to give any more explanations. All of you who are of fair and just minds may already have drawn a conclusion on this matter. I would like to end this message by extending my heartfelt feelings of love, respect, and best regards to you. I miss all of you, but what can I do? Since they will not allow me to enter their zone, all I can do for now is to stay with our people who are living in the liberated zone of our Cambodian tripartite resistance movement. However, I will continue my mission to bring independence with territorial integrity back to our Cambodia—as during the Sangkum Reas Niyom era, the era of the Kingdom of Cambodia—within the not too distant future. I will try my best to do this for our motherland, our people, and our monks. Thank you very much. This is the end of my message.

Heng Samrin Says No Compromise on Pol Pot

BK1705121690 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1101 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, 17 May (SPK)—Cambodian head of state Heng Samrin declared that within the framework of a political solution to the present conflict, "we can still make compromises on certain issues, except the one concerning the genocidal Pol Pot clique's return to power."

Addressing a mass meeting during the inauguration of a school in Ponhea Krek District, Kompong Cham Province, where he conducted a working visit just a few days before he left for Vietnam, Heng Samrin, also general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, said:

"The process of dialogue for peace constitutes a form of complex struggle. One should not think that peace is served ready and willing on the negotiating table.

"In the past, despite our concessions on certain issues, the dialogue remained deadlocked because the other side always attempted to bring the Pol Pot clique back to power and to dismantle the State of Cambodia.

"On our side, we have taken a flexible but firm position, given the fact that we are in control of the country and responsible for the destiny of the people."

"However," President Heng Samrin stated, "we may make a few more concessions, but resolutely we will never accept the Pol Pot clique's return to power. We will also resolutely defend all gains of our society as well as national independence and sovereignty. We cannot put our territory under the control of other nations or international organizations.

"Still, our party and state are patiently working to promote dialogue in order to advance toward a political settlement of the Cambodian problem," Heng Samrin said.

Chea Sim Addresses Service for 'Day of Hatred'

BK2105091990 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 May 90

[Summary] A memorial service was held at the Cheung Ek Museum of Genocide on the morning of 20 May to mark the day of hatred against the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Wreaths were laid in front of the marble and glass stupa exhibiting skulls of the victims of the Pol Pot massacre. "Among the leaders in the presidium attending the ceremony were, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the front National Council; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the Political Bureau, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Federation of Cambodian Trade Unions; Comrade Ney Pena, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Central Propaganda and Education Commission; Comrade Nguon Nhel, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Phnom Penh City Party Committee; Comrade General Tie Banh, member of the Political Bureau, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense; Comrade Gen. Sin Song, alternate member of the Political Bureau and minister of the interior, and several other leaders of the party, state, and front institutions and mass organizations."

In his address, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim said:

[Begin recording] After five years of struggle against the old regimes and the U.S. aggressors, the Cambodian people won the victory on 17 April 1975. They thought they would be able to rebuild the war-torn nation and live in peace, free from oppression while enjoying national independence, social justice, and genuine prosperity. However, reality was something else altogether. After 17 April 1975 the Cambodian motherland was plunged into the worst calamity in its history. The Pol Pot criminals monopolized power and openly betrayed the revolution, pursuing an ultra-reactionary policy that indiscriminately slaughtered innocent people.

In his utopia to build a model new society and become the great leader of the times, Pol Pot abused his powers and privileges. In just three years eight months and 20 days, more than three million were savagely massacred as the Cambodian nation was thrown into the abyss of genocide. Not only was this crime the ultimate suffering of the Cambodian people, but it also constituted the infamy of all humankind.

Under the leadership of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation and thanks to the assistance of the Vietnamese volunteer troops and people, on 7 January 1979 we completely toppled the genocidal Pol Pot regime. January 7, 1979, was the ray of hope in the rebirth of the Cambodian nation and people. It was the day we started rebuilding our lives under the new regime of our State of Cambodia. During the past 11 years we have rebuilt our society from the heaps of ashes, fighting all attempts to return to power by the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime.

"The Cambodian people are resolute not to allow the genocidal gang to return to Cambodia in whatever form. At the same time, the Cambodian people would like to appeal to all peoples and nations throughout the world to intensify campaigns against the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime and to prevent their return to power by sending the genocidal ringleaders before the international tribunal like the Hitlerite fascists after World War II, and by totally eliminating their current military and political forces—the backbone of the genocidal regime." Nothing can compel us to accept them.

"Our people hate war. The main cause that has chronically kept the war going on to the present is that the tripartite factions have enjoyed the support of a number of foreign circles. This has forced us to take up arms to fight back to resolutely prevent the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning to power. For this reason, the Cambodian people have earnestly insisted that any international forums that really wish to bring peace back to the Cambodian people must join the fight to prevent the genocidal regime's return and must resolve the Cambodian conflict on the conditions that the interests and rights to self-determination of the Cambodian people be respected."

Dear comrades and friends, in the spirit of 20 May and in light of the many perfidious maneuvers aimed against us by the tripartite factions, our immediate tasks in 1990 are most complex and difficult. We must be more united than ever and strive to protect the gains of society with the highest sense of sacrifice. In front of the stupa of our dead, we appeal to all to do the following:

"You must constantly strengthen and intensify the bonds of national solidarity. You must clearly keep in mind that national solidarity and unity are the vital factors of our struggle. The loss of solidarity and unity means the loss of everything. At the same time, you must expand the broad spirit of international solidarity and constantly strengthen the bonds of international solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and all friendly countries throughout the world. You must heighten vigilance and maintain a constant view to avoid being taken in by the enemy's psychological warfare tactics. You must be resolute in defending our new regime and realize the all-around advantages of our strategic forces over the enemy. The most important factor is that you must contribute to building our forces on every battlefield, at the border as well as in the interior of the country, by utilizing combined forces, means, and measures to attack the enemy, proselytize them, and flush out hidden enemy elements, thus causing the enemy forces to collapse and fail to rear their heads again.

"You must continue to maintain hatred and anger against the genocidal gang that has been unchanged in committing savage crimes against the people both in the past and at present and must be resolutely determined to eliminate this gang, refraining from nurturing any illusion of coexisting in peace with them. At the same time, you must see the nature and mistakes of the reactionary Cambodians who are fighting in the Pol Pot ranks against the Cambodian people and who are conducting maneuvers to sabotage our goodwill in seeking a genuinely peaceful solution for the Cambodian motherland and people. Please, continue to transform the hatred and indignation against the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime into efforts to carry out with a high sense of responsibility and efficiency the tasks put forward by the second national conference of party cadres and the ninth and 10th party Central Committee plenums. Please concentrate on implementing the two major slogans: Everything in service of the battlefields and everything to enhance the people's confidence in our new regime." Everyone is urged to transform the day of hatred against the genocidal Pol Pot regime into a resolute struggle to build our independent, peaceful, free, and happy nation. [end recording]

After the minister of information and culture had read his eulogy to the dead, 100 students from the School of Fine Arts recited a poem depicting the crimes of the genocidal regime and the suffering of the Cambodian people.

Hun Sen Chairs Meeting of Foreign Ministry

BK1805122590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] On the morning of 15 May at the Foreign Ministry office, the second congress of the Foreign Ministry's local party committee was solemnly held under the chairmanship of Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of Foreign Affairs. Present at the meeting were Comrade Dit Munti, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy foreign minister; Comrade Chan Phin, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the party committee for central ministries and offices; and comrade representatives from the local party committee of the Industry Ministry, as well as core members, local youth union members, and directors and their deputies of various offices under the ministry.

Throughout the day, the congress paid careful attention to the report on past activities performed and achievements gained by the cadres and members of the first local party committee and on the target for the future implementation read by Yos Son, member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the party Central Committee's Foreign Relations Commission, and secretary of the Foreign Ministry's old local party committee. The meeting then elected a new seven-member local party committee to lead and pursue the tasks entrusted by the congress. Comrade (Uch Sipha) was elected as secretary of the second local party committee.

Taking the floor on the occasion, Comrade Hun Sen extolled the cadres and party members of the Foreign Ministry's local party committee for their sense of responsibility and efforts in leading and enhancing the ministry to achieve satisfactory successes. The chairman also spoke about exploits in the military, political, and diplomatic fields recorded by our people since the repatriation of the Vietnamese volunteer troops. This is clear evidence of our position of strength and mastery over the enemy on the military and diplomatic battlefields. Comrade Hun Sen also urged the congress, particularly the newly elected local party committee, to pay constant attention to the work of providing political and ideological education and firmly grasping the situation and task in this new stage of Cambodia's revolution. They should also resolutely overcome all inactive phenomena and outside influences to win new victories for the motherland and people.

Chea Soth Chairs Opening of Economic Course

BK1805123190 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1053 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 18—Recently a refresher course on economics, the second of its kind, was opened here in the presence of Vice Premier Chea Soth.

The course, which will last three months, is attended by 25 economic management cadres from various ministries and offices in Phnom Penh.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Vice Premier Chea Soth encouraged the attendants to do their utmost to improve their knowledge in economic management in order to contribute to the development of the national economy. The first such course was organized in May 1989 for 20 cadres.

AFP Reports Situation in Mondolkiri Province

BK2105041190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0311 GMT 21 May 90

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Sen Monorom, Cambodia, May 21 (AFP)—The inhabitants of remote northeastern Mondolkiri Province, from where the Khmer Rouge first launched their insurgency in the 1960s, remain largely untouched by the current civil war that has ravaged Cambodia for 11 years. In Sen Monorom, provincial seat and home to a quarter of the province's 20,000 inhabitants—80 per cent of whom are minorities—no regular government army troops can be seen. There are only militiamen whose job it is to track down the fewer than 200 Khmer Rouge guerrillas operating in the dense forests of this mountainous region known for its moderate climate.

This province was once the launching pad for the Khmer Rouge insurgency which toppled a U.S.-backed government in 1975 and was in turn ousted in 1979 by Vietnamese troops after a bloody, four-year reign of terror. Considered one of the remotest areas of the country, Mondolkiri Province— which means "center of the mountain" in Khmer—can only be reached by helicopter from Phnom Penh. It also serves as a refuge for a handful of guerrillas of the Vietnamese United Front for the Liberation of Oppressed Races (FULRO), which operates periodically in the high plains of central Vietnam.

"We undertake search operations as much against the FULRO as against the Khmer Rouge who sometimes operate together," military commander Nou Prat told an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent, who authorities said was the first to visit Sen Monorom since 1970. "The Khmer Rouge possess light arms and Chinese B-40 rocket launchers and plant anti-personnel mines, especially on the trails of the region," he said. "They very rarely come near the town and our last clash with them took place in December," the commander continued. "They received reinforcements from Kratie Province (in the west) after the Vietnamese troop withdrawal last September." There were only 300 Vietnamese soldiers in the province who returned to Vietnam after the withdrawal announced in September, leaving the Phnom Penh government to wage a lone struggle against a resistance coalition dominated by the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge.

The head of the Cambodian resistance, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, recently accused Vietnam of colonizing this and Ratanakiri provinces, the latter further north near the border with Laos. But in this capital, a cluster of wood houses perched on red clay hills amid a vast clearing in the forest, few Vietnamese were visible. "There are five or six families in the town and some

Vietnamese also come to trade from time to time," the province's Governor Chan Yoeun said.

Authorities acknowledge nonetheless that most trade is done with Vietnam, only 30 kilometers (18 miles) away, especially with the sister province of Dac Lac, but explain that this is so only because the only useable land route goes to Vietnam. "We import from Vietnam rice, seeds, coffee and building materials," said Ly Son, the province's communist party secretary who said the province exports timber, the region's only source of wealth. The town's small market, 30 little run-down wood stalls, offers cosmetics and Thai or Chinese batteries.

Cambodians of Khmer origin are concentrated in Sen Monorom, while the area's 11 minorities live in the jungle where they practice slash and burn agriculture and hunt tigers, whose bones they say have medicinal value.

Phnom Penh Radio Marks Ho Chi Minh's Birthday

BK2105051090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 18 May 90

[Station editorial: "President Ho Chi Minh Is Always Alive in Our Cause"]

[Text] Filled with feelings of high respect, profound gratitude, and great affection, this year, with the people of Vietnam, Laos, and other fraternal countries and progressive people across the world, our Cambodian people mark the 100th birth anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh, the esteemed and beloved leader of the Vietnamese people, the founder of the Indochinese Communist Party [ICP]—the predecessor of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP], and the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]—the renowned hero of the international communist-worker movement and national liberation movement in the 20th century, and a person who set a valuable model in revolutionary ethics, lifestyle, and activities.

Although President Ho Chi Minh has left this world, his renowned virtue and prestige remain alive in the great cause of the Vietnamese people and in the hearts of the Cambodian people and all friends throughout the world. All his life, President Ho Chi Minh made noble sacrifices for the motherland and the well-being of the Vietnamese people. He made sacrifices for peace, friendship, and affection among men in this world. The immortal, valuable heritage left by President Ho Chi Minh is the brilliant model of staunch patriotism and resolute will to fight undauntedly and courageously without being haughty in times of victory nor daunted in times of difficulty.

The valuable revolutionary ethics in his daily lifestyle are humbleness, gentleness, simpleness, perseverance, cleanliness, thrift, faithfulness, fairness, and determination to sacrifice his whole life in service of the people and for the cause of the motherland. President Ho Chi Minh is the most heroic son of the Vietnamese nation who introduced and publicized Marxism and Leninism throughout Vietnam and the whole Indochinese peninsula. He is the outstanding teacher and leader of the three parties of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. He set the correct and concrete lines for the revolutions in the colonialist countries, contributing to the common struggle of nations for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. He is the great professor of the Indochinese working class who taught the heroic Vietnamese people to have genuine patriotism and a lofty spirit of proletarian internationalism, to be determined to rise up and fight against the aggressors for national independence and unification of the motherland, and to successfully build socialism.

President Ho Chi Minh all along paid attention to training cadres, party members, and combatants to preserve and enhance the revolutionary ethics of the entire party, army, and state power, noting that revolutionary ethics are the valuable characteristics of the revolutionaries. He emphasized the most important point that one must be determined to sacrifice one's whole life in the struggle for the sake of the party and the revolution. At the same time, he trained and advised cadres, party members, and people to oppose such bad phenomena as self-conceit, complacency in victory, and aloofness from the masses, and to always adhere to the four ethics of perseverance, thrift, cleanliness, and faithfulness.

On this occasion of the 100th birth anniversary of great President Ho Chi Minh, the Cambodian people enthusiastically would like to join in this celebration with the fraternal Vietnamese people. They pledge to always learn from the exemplary ethics of President Ho Chi Minh who spent his life struggling for the cause of a strong party—that is the ICP which is the original source of the CPV, KPRP, and LPRP which have succeeded and are carrying on the cause of the ICP and winning great victories for the people of the three countries of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. They pledge to continue strengthening and expanding the tradition of Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos solidarity built and firmly, harmoniously, and excellently consolidated by President Ho Chi Minh, thus stimulating the cause of national defense and construction in each country toward prosperity.

Indonesia

UAE President Arrives in Jakarta 21 May

BK2105060590 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0500 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Zayid Bin-Sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], arrived in Jakarta this morning from Denpasar, Bali. Here is a report by RRI reporter Joko Saksono on the arrival of the state guest at Jakarta's Halim Perdanakusuma Airport.

[Begin recording] UAE President Zayid Bin-sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan arrived at Jakarta's Halim Perdanakusuma Airport at 1110 West Indonesian Time aboard a special Boeing 747 airplane from Denpasar, Bali. The UAE state guest, who was accompanied by Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita, had stayed in Bali for two days prior to his visit to Jakarta, which will last until 23 May. After alighting from the plane in the traditional Arab robe, President Zayid Bin-Sultan Shaykh Al Nuhayyan was welcomed by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas; Anwar Ilmar, deputy governor of the Jakarta Special Region; and Major General Suryadi Sudirja, commander of the Jakarta Military Region. Walking on the red carpet, the state guest later proceeded to Merdeka Palace for a formal state welcome by President Suharto. Members of the UAE delegation include UAE Petroleum Minister Dr. Mani' Bin-Sa'id al 'Utaybah and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah 'Ali al-Nuaymi. [end recording]

Netherlands Minister Discusses Trade Opportunity

BK2005130990 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 9 May 90 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] Jakarta, KOMPAS—There will be a new opportunity to boost Indonesia's trade diplomacy within the European single market in 1992 if Indonesia is able to benefit from the Netherlands Government's efforts to maintain and improve its position as the fifth largest investor in Indonesia after Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and the United States.

This was disclosed to newsmen by Netherlands Economic Affairs Minister Pieter Bukman after he paid a courtesy call on President Suharto at the Bina Graha presidential office on Tuesday [8 May]. The matter was also confirmed by KOMPAS correspondents in separate interviews with Trade Minister Arifin Siregar and Sri Hadi M.A., second assistant to the coordinating minister of economics, finance, industry, and development supervision.

The Netherlands' offer to establish a marketing network for Indonesian products via the Rotterdam port and Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport can indeed be viewed as a new opportunity for Indonesia to gain a foothold in the European single market in 1992 because the two gateways, which are located in the heart of Europe, have a land and river transportation network into the hinterland of Western and Eastern Europe.

"We will discuss all possibilities with several Indonesian ministers, because without thorough preparations such opportunity might evaporate," said Pieter Bukman. [passage omitted]

Pieter Bukman attaches great significance to his current visit to Indonesia because the visit is viewed as the Netherlands' attempt to improve its investment lag in Indonesia. It may sound unusual that the Netherlands—which should know Indonesia better than other countries like the FRG, South Korea, or the United States—only manages to occupy the fifth spot in investment in Indonesia. [passage omitted]

Muslim Leaders Nominate Suharto for Another Term

BK1905122990 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 12 May 90 p 23

[Excerpt] The issuance of a statement by a group of Muslim leaders nominating President Suharto for another presidential term, namely the 1993-98 term, was still being vigorously discussed last week. Several Western embassies in Jakarta were busy looking for information about the matter which had also become a major topic of discussion at various gatherings.

The statement was issued on 30 September, but the public had only become aware of it in April. Some people intrepret the statement's quiet release as a political maneuver aimed at seeking support for a presidential candidate long before the nomination period, namely the MPR [People's Consultative Assembly] session in 1993. The fact that it had been kept under wraps (it was originally scheduled to be revealed on the eve of the MPR session) was, presumably, to give it "added value"; that is, to give the impression that support for the presidential candidate had been obtained a long time ago.

The statement was signed by 21 Muslim leaders who could be said to represent nearly all Indonesian Muslims. Almost all the signatories are well-known and influential figures, including H. Alamsyah Ratu Prawiranegara, K.H. Masykur, K.H. Harsono Cokroaminoto, K.H. Hasan Basri, K.H. Ali Yafie, and Lukman Harun.

Why wasn't the statement of support accompanied by extensive publicity as is the rule in the political world? "It was not our intention to keep quiet, but we were placed in a difficult position and did not want to make public our statement of support because an ethical consideration was also involved," said H. Alamsyah Ratu Prawiranegara, one of the Muslim leaders who initiated the issuance of the statement.

Entitled: "Common Stand of the Indonesian Muslims", the statement said among other things that it "urged parliamentary factions in the MPR to nominate Suharto again as the MPR mandate holder for the 1993-98 presidential term." Because members of the MPR will have to be elected in the 1992 general elections, Alamsyah said "it is unethical for us to reveal our statement of support now."

However, Alamsyah admitted that the statement of support had been presented to President Suharto around the first week of October 1989. "The president gave no response to the statement, but he looked surprised and deeply moved because the contents of the statement were something he never expected to see," said Alamsyah. [passage omitted]

Laos

Kaysone Phomvihan Interviewed on Ho Chi Minh

BK1805102790 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 17 May 90

[Interview with Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, by a Vietnam News Agency correspondent stationed in Laos, on Ho Chi Minh's 100th birthday; date not given]

[Text] With regard to the task of President Ho Chi Minh, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan said:

President Ho Chi Minh's revolutionary task was extremely great. He was the national hero, a great cultural activist of Vietnam and the world, and a capable and brave fighter of the international communist and workers' movement. Nonetheless, he remained very close to the people and sacrificed his entire life for the nation and people. He was an outstanding strategist who was extremely talented and capable but remained remarkably humble. He always listened to the views of all persons. He paid attention to everyone, ranging from old people to infants, and he gave wholehearted assistance to all comrades and friends throughout the world. He paid the least attention to himself. He was an outstanding example of the harmonious combination of genuine patriotism and pure internationalism. All countries oppressed and exploited by the imperialists and colonialists regarded him as their great teacher and faithful comrade-in-arms. He performed an untold number of great deeds for the peoples in Indochina. The most decisive was that he, President Ho Chi Minh, was the first person to introduce Marxism-Leninism in Indochina and apply it to the national salvation struggles carried out by the three Indochinese peoples. He founded the Indochinese Communist Party, the predecessor of the Communist Party of Vietnam; the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]; and the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP].

President Ho Chi Minh always paid close attention to promoting and strengthening the special solidarity and militant alliance among the three Indochinese peoples and turning it into an excellent tradition and decisive factor in their victories. His great virtuous contributions will remain forever in the revolutionary cause of the three Indochinese peoples, the national liberation movements, and the international communists and workers' movement.

With regard to the experiences in party building and education and training of cadres and party members, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan said:

The experiences of President Ho Chi Minh in party building and education and training of party members are extremely precious to the LPRP. He always attached great importance to promoting the spirit of patriotism by going from consciousness of patriotic awareness, to consciousness of class awareness, and then from the spirit of genuine patriotism to Marxism-Leninism. His great success was the creative application of the various principles of Marxism-Leninism in party building to the prevailing conditions in a colonial and feudal state in which the workers' class was still small and the people of all strata were severely oppressed and exploited.

He was always confident in and relied on the people, built the people's strength, linked the nation's problems with those of the classes, linked the party with the nation and people, and promoted the people's roles to become a strong impetus for the revolution and to contribute to party building. He attached special attention to the human factor, regarding it as the most decisive one. He was devoted wholeheartedly to fostering his successors and the future revolution generations.

After the Indochinese Communist Party split into three national parties, he advised the Lao party to take the name of the Lao People's Party in order to rally all Lao patriots conscious of the revolutionary ideal of the whole nation in the struggle for national salvation. That is the creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the practical situation in Laos. The Lao People's Party was the fruit of the combination of Marxism-Leninism and the workers' and patriotic movements.

President Ho Chi Minh always paid attention to training and educating cadres and party members in the revolutionary movement and through practical deeds to upgrade their class stand, revolutionary ideal, and fundamental principles in party building, for example by uniting with one another on the basis of democratic centralism and the party's lines and policies, strictly maintaining discipline, promoting self-criticism and mutual criticism on the basis of the spirit of comradeship, and having increasingly physical contacts with the multiethnic people.

Constantly educated, trained, guided, and taught by Uncle Ho, members of the Lao party within the Indochinese Communist Party—though numbering only a few—built the Lao People's Party or the present LPRP into a genuine Marxist-Leninist party, the only leader of the Lao revolution and the legitimate representative of the interests of the multiethnic Lao people. After that, they regarded the LPRP as their own genuine party. The LPRP has at all times combined patriotism and pure internationalism. All fraternal friends and comrades throughout the world have regarded our party as a strong and brave force in the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress.

With regard to his fond memory of his meetings with President Ho Chi Minh, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan said:

In my revolutionary life when I was young and growing up, I had the honor and opportunities to meet with President Ho Chi Minh on many occasions. Every meeting was permeated with an atmosphere of profound affection and intimacy. I was close to him and loved him as a pure comrade and as the great teacher who sincerely educated, taught, trained, built, and imparted rich experiences to us. In each meeting, he gave us new knowledge and paid attention to imparting to me his pure revolutionary qualifications. He liked to encourage me to discover various methods in solving problems in the revolutionary struggle, including when the situation became very complicated and difficult. He frequently urged me to heighten self-reliance and to build our strength by ourselves and to remain independent and sovereign. Only by doing so would the revolution grow stronger and be developed and the solidarity and relations be firm.

My most profound feeling upon meeting Uncle Ho for the first time was that I was very excited and (?elated). I had heard many people talk about Uncle Ho on several occasions, but with his intimate gesture and openness my excitement was suddenly calmed. The first revolutionary lessons he imparted to me when I was seeking the way of national salvation for the multiethnic Lao people—such as the necessity to base ourselves on the people, to win the confidence of the people, to care for the people, to take to the grass roots, to build the resistance bases, to pay attention to building the armed forces and other revolutionary organizations and to training and fostering revolutionary cadres especially grass-roots and local cadres—were extremely precious to me. I regard those lessons as the guiding ideologies prevailing throughout the revolutionary struggle and helping me mature to what I am today. Throughout my life, I will remain grateful to the great teachings of President Ho Chi Minh.

Sihanouk's 'Inconsistent Stand' Criticized

BK1805092990 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 18 May 90

[Station feature: "Prince Sihanouk's Inconsistent Stand"]

[Text] As everyone well knows, the government of the State of Cambodia has for 11 years controlled the entire Cambodian territory, ruled the country, and commanded the destinies of the Cambodian people. Despite this fact, there still remains the so-called government of Democratic Kampuchea, a puppet government with no land on which to stay and that absolutely cannot represent the Cambodian people. Nevertheless, to avoid the fighting between the Cambodian people, which has been prolonged for many years, the government of the State of Cambodia has sought all appropriate ways and means to politically settle the problem.

In his remarks in Phatthaya, Thailand on 4 May, Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, noted his government's stand by saying it is necessary to find ways to prevent further prolonging the war in Cambodia. He noted that if no agreement can be reached, at least (?a meeting should be held). In his interview with a French AFP correspondent on 9 May, Hun Sen reiterated he still wants to hold a meeting with Prince Sihanouk in Tokyo, Japan at the proposal of Chatchai Chunhawan, prime minister of Thailand, despite Prince Sihanouk's refusal to attend the meeting. He also said he has already given to the Japanese officials a list of the names of his delegation members to participate in the meeting.

These facts reflect the consistent good intentions of the government of the State of Cambodia which has always desired to settle the Cambodian problem through political means. On many occasions in the past, the government of the State of Cambodia has made compromises in hopes of achieving success in settling the problem in order to serve the earnest aspirations of the Cambodian people who desire to live in peace, enjoy unification, and build the country in peace.

On the contrary, Prince Sihanouk has undermined the desire of the Cambodian people. Recently, with no spirit of responsibility, he said he will not go to Tokyo to hold the meeting with Hun Sen as he already promised. On that occasion, Prince Sihanouk, as on previous occasions, said he will resign from the post of leader of the Cambodian resistance factions. Through this statement, Prince Sihanouk has openly undermined not only the aspirations of the Cambodian people, but the hope of the people of the world who are looking forward to the outcome of the talks expected to be held in Tokyo between Hun Sen and Sihanouk. The statement has also showed the unreliable and inconsistent stand of Prince Sihanouk.

Philippines

NPA Threatens U.S. Installations in Manila

HK2205020790 Hong Kong AFP in English 0142 GMT 22 May 90

[By Cecilia Quiambao]

[Text] Manila, May 22 (AFP)—Communist urban guerrillas plan to launch "sabotage operations" against U.S. and Philippine military installations based in Manila as a prelude to a general insurrection, a rebel leader said. The claims were made by Sergio Romero, a ranking official of the so-called Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB), the communist New People's Army (NPA) command in the capital, which celebrates its sixth founding anniversary on Thursday.

"From simple assassinations and ambushes, we will be able to conduct sabotage operations against U.S. and Philippine military installations and offices in the capital within three years," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in an interview in a middle-class district in the heart of the capital. Three of the country's major military camps, as well as the offices of the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group, are located in suburban Quezon City, while the U.S. Embassy is situated in central Manila.

Mr. Romero said launching "more sophisticated" attacks was "the natural course for the movement" which plans to organize "insurrectionary forces" against the government as a prelude to total victory within the next decade. He defined insurrection as "spontaneous mass uprising." But before such a stage is reached, "there will be no massive attack or show of force," he said.

Mr. Romero also said "the attacks against the Americans will definitely intensify if they persist on staying here." Manila and Washington agreed last Friday after week-long talks to hold further discussions on the future of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the biggest overseas U.S. facilities, whose lease expires in September 1991. Suspected communist guerrillas shot dead on May 13 two U.S. airmen near U.S. Clark Air Base, north of the capital, several hours before the exploratory talks on bases' future started. NPA guerrillas are also believed to be responsible for five other killings of U.S. servicemen and civilian employees since 1986, including the April 1989 murder of U.S. Army Colonel James Rowe by the ABB.

ABB guerillas have killed "less than 200" military officers and men, policemen and civilians since it began operations in the capital six years ago, Mr. Romero said, but was tight-lipped about the names of popular ABB victims.

He refused to divulge the ABB's armed strength, but said current military estimates that 2,000 NPA guerrillas operate in the capital "was too big."

He also said the ABB, which started operations in 1984 with only about 12 operatives, has prepared a "contingency plan" which would be put into operation in the event of another coup attempt by right-wing military rebels. Right-wing military rebels nearly toppled President Corazon Aquino in last December's putsch, the sixth coup attempt against her since she came to power in 1986. About 119 were killed and 500 others were injured in the mutiny. "The contingency plan will be executed based on the actual dynamics of what will happen in the future," Mr. Romero said. He said the communist movement was opposed to "a change of government through a coup d'etat," but added that "the revolutionary movement will become stronger in the event of a military take-over." "In such case, there will be more repression. Many will be forced to join our ranks," Mr. Romero added.

The ABB official said the 1986 civilian-military revolt that put Mrs. Aquino in power and the December coup attempt showed that "the reactionary state could be overthrown without decisively defeating (government forces) in the countryside."

Mitra 'Satisfied' With Results of Bases Talks

HK2105122790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 20 May 90 PP 1, 10

[By Roy de Guzman]

[Text] The Americans can keep their military bases here, but only if they agree to a higher compensation package and formalize the new bilateral agreement in the form of a treaty, Speaker Ramon V. Mitra said yesterday.

Mitra also said that the Philippines "has nothing to be thankful for," referring to chief U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage's assurance in the just-concluded bases talks that the White House is doing its best to meet a $96-million shortfall in promised U.S. aid to the country in 1988.

Mitra, the country's fourth highest official and a 1992 presidential aspirant, had earlier refused to take a definite stand on the fate of the bases, saying he was leaving everything to Philippine negotiators headed by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus. But yesterday, Mitra told the INQUIRER he was satisfied with the turnout of the initial talks and said, "We can now begin formal negotiations." "But this has got to be a new kind of negotiation. We believe we never had a valid agreement since 1946. So this has got to be a new agreement between two sovereign nations," Mitra said. The Speaker said Philippine officials will demand higher rental and more financial benefits in the next phase of the bases talks. And in case both governments arrive at an agreement to keep the bases, the pact must be forged in the form of a new treaty as required by the 1987 Constitution. "Even if we would like to, we cannot. We have no choice, that's in the Constitution. It should be a treaty, a commitment by the entire U.S. government, including the U.S. Congress, and not just one branch," Mitra said.

In another development, Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos yesterday said he supports the Singaporean government's proposal to share with the Philippines the burden of hosting the U.S. bases in the region. Ramos had presented to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations several options to insure stability and security in the region in case of a U.S. pullout. One is forging closer defense cooperation through the joint production of defense equipment. Another is a common policy to ensure a "nuclear-free" ASEAN region. He said the Singaporean government's offer to host the bases was a manifestation of "true defense cooperation" in the region.

Ramos said he favors the gradual phaseout of the U.S. bases within the next five to eight years. But the pullout, he said, will have a strong impact not only in the Philippines but also in neighboring countries. The withdrawal of U.S. forces "will result in ASEAN countries doubling their efforts to protect their own interest," said Ramos.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party of the Philippines yesterday condemned the government's move to formally negotiate a new bases treaty as "traitorous," saying its serving the U.S. notice of termination is "a mere palabas (show)" to get additional money, and has only itself to blame for having been bullied by Armitage for its "cash-register mentality."

The Philippines hosts U.S. military facilities here under an agreement ending September 1991. A joint RP [Republic of the Philippines] US exploratory talks on the future of the American bases was concluded last week.

Congressman Says U.S. Meddles Too Much

HK2105090390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] The U.S. Government may have retaliated against the Aquino government if the exploratory talks had failed. This was the reaction of minority floor leader Salvador Escudero III regarding a statement by the U.S. State Department assuring President Aquino she will finish her term because of the good outcome of the bases talks. Escudero, in an interview with Deo Macalma, said the U.S. meddles too much in the country's internal affairs. Here is part of Congressman Escudero's statement:

[begin recording] The Americans are meddling too much. Do they think they are the world's international police? They seem to threaten the government panel. I hope they stop meddling in our country. This is our country. Whatever the problem, it is us who suffer or benefit in the event of good things happening here. Like former President Macapagal said, America should stop meddling here, and the administration should also stop seeking aid from the United States. We should depend on our own efforts because if we don't stop depending on the U.S., they will always meddle. [end recording]

Escudero added that the military bases should be removed because they impede our progress and independence:

[Begin recording] There should be a definite period when these military bases should go, because if these bases are retained here, we will never be a self reliant, fully independent, and sovereign state. Other nations are laughing at us because even if they want the presence of military bases in Asia for their protection, they don't want these bases to be in their country. [end recording]

Aquino Denies Planned Bases Executive Agreement

HK2205021790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 May 90 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] President Aquino yesterday denied the government was considering the conclusion of an executive agreement with the United States to extend the stay of U.S. facilities here. Mrs Aquino said an executive agreement "will not suffice" to keep the bases beyond Sept. 16, 1991, when the 1947 RP[Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement expires. "Our Constitution is clear. After Sept. 16, 1991, the facilities can stay only under a treaty," she told reporters in Malacanang. She was reacting to a written question asking her to comment on a report that the Department of Foreign Affairs was planning to draft an executive agreement with U.S. officials to avoid going through the process of negotiating a new treaty allowing the U.S. to keep its military facilities.

The report drew fire from the Senate, where legislators threatened to seek the impeachment of the President if the plan were implemented. Sen Wigberto Tanada, a staunch anti-bases advocate, warned that Ms Aquino faces "impeachment" should she sign such an executive agreement. "It is not legally possible," Tanada said, stressing that such an accord would be unconstitutional. [passage omitted]

Ms Aquino, however, stressed that she was aware of the constitutional mandate requiring the conclusion of a treaty before the U.S. could be allowed to maintain their facilities beyond 1991. She said that even if a new treaty were to be concluded, it would still have to be ratified by a two-thirds vote of the Philippine Senate.

Health Secretary Alfredo Bengzon, co-chairman of the Philippine panel in the exploratory talks held last week, also denied that the government was considering an executive agreement. "I think you should demolish once and for all fears or suspicions about anything other than a treaty, which is what the Constitution provides," Bengzon said, after a meeting with Ms Aquino in Malacanang.

Adm [Admiral] Huntington Hardisty, chief of the U.S. Pacific Command who made a courtesy call on the President, also denied the report. "We haven't decided yet," Hardisty said. "We haven't reached that point of thinking what kind of agreement to talk about."

Communist rebels have urged Filipinos to launch a campaign to stop the Philippines and the U.S. from forging a new agreement extending the stay of the bases. In a statement issued over the weekend, the Communist Party of the Philippines said the administration was bent on renewing the lease on the bases to ensure its political survival. It said the service of the formal notice of termination last week was "a mere show to distract the people from its real intention to extend the bases' lease in a vain attempt to extract additional money from the U.S."

Senators Warn of Impeachment

HK2105092790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0700 GMT 21 May 90

[By Cesar Chavez]

[Text] Senators Wigberto Tanada and Joseph Estrada will lead an impeachment proceeding against President Corazon Aquino in the event she enters into an executive agreement for the extension of the U.S. bases after 16 September 1991, the expiry date of the Philippines-U.S. military bases agreement.

Meanwhile, Senate President Jovito Salonga said if the president allowed the presence of U.S. military troops and bases in the Philippines after 1991, she would clearly violate the Constitution.

Tanada and Estrada said the Aquino government should uphold and implement the Constitution, which states that the U.S. bases end their stay here by 16 September 1991, and any agreement for their extension should be reached through a treaty and not just through an executive agreement. It is recalled that reports said Malacanang was prepared to talk to the U.S. government for an executive agreement for the extension of the U.S. bases. Tanada said the phaseout or withdrawal should now begin and should end before 16 September 1991.

Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, meanwhile, said the issuance of a notice of termination means the U.S. should now start leaving the bases at Clark and Subic.

Senator Ernesto Maceda, Senate Defense Committee chairman, said he will support an executive agreement on condition that the phaseout period will only be for three years, starting 16 September 1991. But according to Salonga, Guingona, Estrada, and Tanada, if there is going to be a phaseout, it should start now and should not go beyond 16 September 1991. Senator Estrada said:

[Begin recording] I will join Senator Tanada to impeach her in the event she violates the Constitution. Even if she is the president, she can not prevail over our Constitution. [end recording]

Senator Rene Saguisag stressed that Congress is the body that should approve any treaty, if ever there is one reached on this issue.

Aquino Commends Bases Talks Panel Members

HK2105054190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 20 May 90

[From "Magtanong sa Pangulo" (Ask the President) program; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In connection with the military bases being used by the United States in the country, I wish to congratulate the Philippine panel members in the bases exploratory talks. Our able civil servants, headed by Secretaries Raul Manglapus and Alfredo Bengzon, performed their task bravely and sincerely, upholding the interest of the nation all throughout the talks. Their display of our strong determination, including the issuance to our American friends of a notice of termination of the bases agreement, brought great honor to our country. On behalf of our countrymen, I am extending my thanks to them. Long live the Philippines! [passage omitted]

Ramos on Needed Military Equipment From U.S.

HK2205033390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 May 90 pp 1, 10

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos disclosed yesterday that the list of equipment needed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), including modern helicopter gunships, seacraft and communications facilities, is now ready for submission to the United States government under the proposed transfer of equipment scheme.

The Philippine and U.S. panels in the exploratory talks on American bases agreed on "satisfactory resolution" over the shortfall in the compensation package for the use of U.S. military bases in the country.

The Philippine demand for payment of the shortfall was considered met when both sides agreed to form a joint committee to monitor the payments. The Philippine government earlier pushed for the transfer of equipment, particularly military hardware and hospital equipment, as U.S. payment for the shortfall.

In an interview after his meeting with Admiral Huntington Hardisty, commander of the U.S. Pacific Forces, Ramos said that the AFP's "shopping list" is already complete. "But we (defense department officials) still have to meet with U.S. officials to determine what they have and what we want," Ramos said. Secretary Ramos said that MD-500 helicopter gunships are on top of the AFP's list of priorities. Others are modern seacraft for the Philippine Navy, individual equipment for ground troops, communication facilities, and office equipment.

Ramos also underscored the need for the Philippines and the U.S. "to continue their friendly ties." "This must be anchored on something more than just the U.S. facilities. It must come from a mutual commitment to democracy," he declared.

Paper Reports No Clear Win in Bases Talks

HK2105123390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 20 May 90 pp 1, 4

[By staff member Chay Florentino, with additional reports from Manny Mogato and Bert Castro]

[Text] Neither the Philippines nor the United States got exactly what it wanted from the five-day bases exploratory talks that ended Friday. The Philippines wanted the U.S. to comply with its pledges made in the 1988 Manglapus-Shultz memorandum of agreement. The U.S., concerned with the future of its security relationship with the Philippines, wanted a clear commitment from the government for treaty negotiations to start soon. The Philippines obtained from the U.S. assistance short of the original $222.58 million it was expecting and gave in exchange a vague commitment to begin negotiations for a new bases treaty. The Philippine side, however, erred in computing U.S. shortfalls, listing

$22.6 million in food aid as distributed to private voluntary agencies when this was in fact given to the Department of Social Welfare and Services. This, in effect, brings down the shortfall to $199.98 million. The U.S. panel led by Special Negotiator Richard Armitage presented a $133.4 million package they termed as "additional assistance" which, however, still fell short of Philippine expectations. (See Table).

In a related development, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said it was necessary for the Philippines to develop its own defense industries in anticipation of the U.S. military pullout from the region. He proposed that these industries could also be undertaken through regional cooperation among the Southeast Asian countries.

The entire "additional assistance" is in non-cash forms, mostly military and medical equipment, as well as food aid. A joint technical committee was also created by both panels to monitor delivery of the materials. Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said, "We accepted that offer and will apply it to these outstanding unimplemented items in the compensation package."

While Manglapus said he was satisfied with the way the shortfall issue was settled by the U.S. the Philippine panel could not categorically way it was ready for treaty negotiations. Instead, they opted to begin wide-ranging "discussions" which would cover not only the future of the bases but other aspects of RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. relations as well. A source who had access to the negotiations said the Americans "feel they got it," referring to a definite Philippine commitment regarding treaty negotiations but said "it's open-ended."

Armitage repeatedly said he was disappointed that the compensation issue dominated the talks, adding that if the value of the bases to Filipinos was purely a monetary term, "the American military presence cannot be sustained." He also said he was "less certain" about the future relations between the two countries.

Following the Sept. 16, 1991 bases termination date which, Manglapus had said could be extended, the Americans would be pressed for time to conclude a new treaty that would allow them continued access to the military facilities here. "Time pressure is on everybody... The agreement expires soon and time is running out and we'll just have to move as expeditiously as possible," U.S. panel spokesman Stanley Schraeger said.

Following the conclusion of exploratory talks and settlement of the shortfall issue, the stage has been set for talks on a new treaty.

Speaking before the graduates of the Armed Forces Command and General Staff College at Fort Boifacio Ramos said the development of local defense industries should be given priority. Ramos repeated his call for closer defense cooperation among Asean countries through a common sourcing of defense materials as a long-term solution for strengthening regional security. He rejected proposals for a defense pact because "it could provoke an arms race in the region, intensify ideology-based polarization and conflicts and encourage the superpowers to initiate preemptive counteraction."

Ramos said the closure of the U.S. bases in the country "will result in Asean countries doubling their efforts to protect their own interests." "There will be an expected increase in defense spending to make up for the vacuum left by the Americans," he said.

Ramos also proposed two major regional policies to make up for the pullout of the U.S. and to maintain the balance of power and stability in the region. He called for the adoption by other Asean member countries of a scheme whereby the cost of hosting U.S. bases would be equitably shared. At the same time he proposed the adoption of a policy that upholds the Philippine 1987 Constitution and takes into consideration the pragmatic realities in the country's security environment. In batting for the development of local defense industries, Ramos cited at least three advantages over depending on western countries for materials and security assistance. First, it lessens the dependence and vulnerability from foreign defense supplier. Second, the foreign reserves are safeguarded as it lessens dollar outflows and generates foreign exchange from export items. Finally, it allows the emergence of a pool of individuals and groups with highly marketable scientific and technological skills. "The wisdom in pursuing a self-reliant defense posture is self-reliant defense posture is self-evident," he stressed. "No two nations, no matter how historically or traditionally allied they are, pursue their interest in a clone-like fashion. He said it would be "very dangerous" to rely on the goodwill and altruism of others for one's survival and continued growth.

The priority areas which the local defense industries can engage in, according to the secretary, were development and improvement of small arms and ammunitions, tactical communications equipment, basic land vehicles and small seacraft, quartermaster items (boots, canteens, belts and other accessories), and spare parts and components for repair and maintenance of helicopters, aircraft, naval warships, and armored vehicles.

At the justice department, Undersecretary Eduardo Montenegro said the Americans will take at least five years to pull out its military bases from the Philippines. "The Americans, like a corporation, will have three to five years within which to wind up their affairs here," he said. Montenegro said the Philippine government is ready to take over the American facilities, adding that the department of justice has the inventory of movable and immovable properties inside the installations.

What the Philippines got	What the Philippines wanted	
	US Pledges for 1990	Shortfall

1. Excess US Military equipment for the military sales component —$59.9 Million	1. Military assistance—$200 Million	$39.9 Million
2. Unused foreign militarysales credits component —$14.7M	2. Economic support fund—$160M	$35.98 M
3. Additional food aid, medical equipment instruments, and supplies for the development assistance component —$28.8M	3. Food aid and development assistance—$96M	$82M
4. Medical equipment, instruments and supplies under the Berry Amendment component —$30M	4. Procurement under a waiver of the Berry Amendment—$30M	$30M
	5. Conversion of unused foreign military sales credits into grants—$14.7M	$14.7M
Total: $133.4M	$500.7M	$222.58M

Editorial Urges Formation of New Power Balance

HK1905083290 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 19 May 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Working toward a new power balance"]

[Text] The current talks over the future of the U.S. military bases in the Philippines are as much a concern of the Filipinos as it is of their neighbors in the Pacific region. The outcome of the talks is being watched by the Philippines' partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) and countries further afield such as the Soviet Union, China, Japan and Australia because the possible withdrawal of the U.S. bases is believed to cause a change in the balance of power in the region.

Some of these countries like Australia, Thailand and Singapore have expressed concern that the withdrawal could create instability in the region, and have called for the retention of the bases. This perception is widely shared in the region, although most of the countries have kept their opinions muted because they do not want to be seen as interfering in the bilateral relationship between the Philippines and the U.S.

These anxieties underline the stretegic importance of the Philippines in the maintenance of equilibrium in the region. They reflect the narrow national interests of these countries seeking the retention of the bases and the continuance of the balance of power based on the U.S. presence, but these interests conflict with the aspiration of the Filiinos to gain full national autonomy. There is clearly a conflict between Filipino nationalism and the nationalism of the Philippines' neighbors, and in this clash, the Filipinos should worry more about their own priorities rather than those of their neighbors.

Most of the nations in the region anticipate the U.S. withdrawal from the Philippines and are preparing for it. They are making adjustments in their foreign policy and budgetary priorities for such a worst case scenario. For example, Thailand, anticipating that the Filipinos will insist that the bases will have to go, has sought joint naval exercises with Japan as the first step for Japan to fill the security vacuum that would be left by an American withdrawal. Thailand's move has rekindled fears in Southeast Asia of a resurgence of Japanese military threat. The fears stem from the Japanese military occupation of most of Southeast Asia in World War II, with the exception of Thailand.

The Philippines lies astride the vital sea lanes in the China Sea in which much of Japan's trade passes. The withdrawal of U.S. bases closer to alternative bases [as published] in the Pacific is perceived, especially by Australia, as rendering vulnerable such choke points as the Sunda Strait in Indonesia and the trade routes leading to the Strait of Malacca and into the Indian Ocean to possible interference in the event of a change in the balance of power. Australia, in particular, is worried about India's naval build-up.

The answer to these anxieties is not the retention of the bases. It lies in strengthening the Philippines economically and militarily so that it can contribute positively to the formation of a new balance of power and can project a military power that can help keep the sea lanes open to commerce and that can protect its own marine resources from international poaching.

The bases talks have now entered the phase in which the compensation package is being composed and considered. the contentious issue is about the shortfall of aid committed by the U.S. under the existing agreement. the U.S. says it no longer has the resources to pay the compensation on the scale expected by the Philippines and the talks are bogged down on this issue. But the U.S. indicated it is prepared to consider other forms of aid to make up for the shortfall. This option offers the opportunity to seek naval and other military equipment that can help build the armed forces into a real external defense-oriented force that can project the military power of an independent republic. Following the closure of U.S. military and naval installations in continental USA, the U.S. has accumulated a huge stockpile of mothballed military equipment. This hardware can form part of the compensation package.

The Philippines is relatively the weakest military power among the Ascan countries. The bases talks can be creatively used to transform the country into a credible force to build the new power equilibrium in the Pacific region and at the same time give substance to national sovereignty.

Two Bombs Discovered in Makati Banks

HK2205042190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 22 May 90

[Italicized portions in English]

[Text] Two bombs were found in two Makati banks this morning. The first bomb was discovered in front of the Security Bank in Ayala, Makati, while the second bomb was found beside the Philippine Banking Corporation building in Paseo de Roxas, Makati. It was learned that the first bomb had 30 sticks of dynamite, while the other had 10 sticks of dynamite. The military's bomb disposal unit went to the scene and defused the bombs. They later took the bombs to Fort Bonifacio for examination.

In this connection, Capital Region Command Chief General Marino Filart outlined necessary measures to be taken by bank owners to prevent these incidents:

[Begin recording] *The Bankers' Association have already intimated to me and we have been discussing this problem.* My suggestion is *we should improve communication* because *we have patrols all over the city within metropolitan area, and in our laging handa [always prepared] operation, the additional vehicles assigned with our sector command, with our reserves, the RSAF [Regional Special Action Force], and the police field force, the SWAT teams of the different police districts are assigned to* what we call *the choke points. They are supposed to be on patrol 12 hours a day,* so that in case there are threats like this or robbery, *they can respond, in addition to whatever is available from patrol cars.* [end recording]

Promotion of Military Deputy Chief Confirmed

HK1605124790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 16 May 90

[Text] The Commission on Appointments [CA] today confirmed the promotion of Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Alexander Aguirre, but deferred action on the promotion of two other generals. This report by Jojo Ismael:

[Begin recording] In response to a motion by Senator Manital Tamano, chairman of the CA's defense committee, the appointment body today confirmed the promotion of Brigadier General Alexander Aguirre, AFP deputy chief of staff, to major general. However, the commission postponed action on the promotion of Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police chief Brigadier General Cesar Nazareno and Southern Command Chief Manuel Dizon after Senator Ernesto Maceda sought a thorough investigation on a report stating that several Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit members, under Dizon's command, are followers of fugitive Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo. Dizon and Nazareno were both being promoted to the rank of [word indistinct] or major general. [end recording]

Official Cites Need for Military Equipment

HK2105035190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 May 90 p 24

[Text] Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Eduardo Cabanlig, Philippine Marines (PM) commandant, said yesterday that his command is seeking the acquisition of light vehicle trucks (LVTs) and more powerful weapons to strengthen and move troops to the frontline at the shortest possible time.

Cabanlig cited the need for better and more military equipment as he lamented the deteriorating state of the Marines' amphibious trucks. Amphibious trucks are falt-bottomed vehicles that move on tracks and have a finlike extension by means of which it is propelled on land or water. It is typically used for landing assault troops.

Cabanlig said the Philippine Navy [PN], the Marines' mother unit, is currently looking into the problem of lack of equipment and modern weapons of the Marines. He said his request to replace 18 of the PM's LVTs is being considered by Rear Admiral Dumancas, PN chief, to be included in the Navy's modernization program.

He added that the Marines also need more sophisticated weapons like the automatic squad rifles that have a range of 50 meters and have more firepower than the M-16.

Cabanlig said New People's Army (NPA) rebels have acquired mortars, UZIs and other modern weapons, while the military's fighting troops have to make do with old weapons and equipment. He said that while the Marines can fight the rebels effectively, it would be easier for them to beat the enemy with better guns and ammunition.

Government Begins Daylight Savings Time Program

HK2105034490 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] The government started enforcing daylight savings time [DST] today. At midnight last night, the time was moved one hour forward; thus 2400 became 0100 local time. The move is aimed at reducing power consumption. DST will be enforced until 31 August.

ICO Support for MNLF Alleged 'Propaganda'

HK1805064790 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] The Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] support for the Moro National Liberation Front's [MNLF] bid for ICO membership is only propaganda. Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] Jorge Loredo said the report was groundless and only a part of the MNLF propaganda to solicit sympathy from Muslims. The DFA learned this from Consul Bill Raschid Salih who is in Jeddah, Saudi

Arabia. Sali said the ICO did not issue any statement in support of the MNLF's bid for membership in their organization.

General Says Mindanao Rebel Movement 'Weakened'

HK1905083090 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 19 May 90 p 5

[By Wilma N. Yamzon]

[Text] Brig. Gen. [Brigadier General] Eduardo Cabanlig, Philippine Marines (PM) commandant, said yesterday the secessionist movement in the South has weakened because a number of its leaders have abandoned their ranks. However, Cabanlig said the military will pursue its objective of securing Mindanao against all forms of anti-government violence. "Right now, we are concentrating our operations on lawless elements, such as pirates and smugglers, in the region," the Marines chief said.

He said about half of the leaders of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Front (MILF), like Commander Atemil Hassan and Datu Ulumbagin, have gone to Malaysia and Saudi Arabia. He added that the military received reports that MNLF leader Nur Misuari will stay in Saudi Arabia for good.

"We have less military operations in Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Basilan, and Zamboanga as only several hardcore groups exist in these provinces now. We hope to convince the remaining anti-government Muslim groups to surrender," he said.

He said Mindanao is peaceful now, except for some tribal feuds, resulting in killing among family members.

Cabanlig said the seaweed business is booming in the South and people there are earning hundreds of pesos a day from Japanese and Taiwanese buyers. "If the economic development in Mindanao continues, we see the end of the secessionist movement in a few months, he said.

He said the Marines and other units of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) have embarked on a civic-action program by building roads and bridges and transporting people from one island to another.

Nazareno Orders Anti-Insurgency Drive Assessment

HK2105034990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 May 90 pp 1, 24

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Text] Maj. Gen. [Major General] Cesar Nazareno, PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief, ordered military commanders yesterday to assess the government's anti-insurgency campaign in the countryside for them to draw up "fresh strategies" against communist rebels. Inspecting troops in Northern Luzon over the weekend, Nazareno told commanders to determine the progress of combat operations against insurgents so that mopping up operations could be launched starting 1991.

The NPA [New People's Army] began its summer offensive" against the Armed Forces two months ago, mounting sustained attacks on troops and camps in the provinces. The military suffered losses in two weeks of battles with NPA rebels. More than 30 soldiers were killed last week as rebels attacked camps and ambushed soldiers in various parts of the country. Nazareno told police and military officials in Northern Luzon to undertake new approaches to be able to beat the rebels.

Brig. [Brigadier] Gen. Gumersindo Yap, Northern Luzon (Nolcom) commander, said government forces under his command are now conducting all-out combat operations against NPA rebels, particularly in the Ilocos and Cordillera regions. "We expect to clear a significant area by the end of July," Yap told Nazareno in his briefing on the insurgency situation.

Nazareno said Constabulary and Army troopers are conducting joint operations against the communists.

Meanwhile, Nazareno directed police and military commanders to renew their drive against illegal gambling and smuggling. He issued the order during a conference held at Nolcom headquarters at Camp Aquino in Tarlac. The PC-INP chief said illegal gambling like jueteng [number game] "further drives our people into destitution since the poor, who constitute the majority of those addicted to the game, bet their hard-earned money instead of using it for productive purposes." "The campaign against illegal gambling is a national commitment of the PC-INP and should be high on the list of priorities of field commanders," Nazareno said.

Nazareno also told PC-INP commanders to go after smugglers. WARNING: PACDATA

17 Killed in Cagayan Clash Between Army, NPA

HK1705022990 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] In Cagayan, 17 were killed in a battle between Army patrol members and armed New People's Army rebels in Barangay Malilitaw, Claveria. Eleven of the casualties are rebels. The soldiers and some Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit operatives were on patrol at 0745 GMT yesterday when they encountered the communist terrorists.

Military Arrests NPA Hitmen in Iloilo City

HK1905091390 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 May 90

[By Eloi Aquino]

[Text] Philippine Constabulary troopers captured six suspected rebel communists in Iloilo City while the rebels were about to carry out a kidnap-for-ransom mission on a Japanese businessman.

General Brigadier Pedro Sistoza, Regional Command 6 commander, identified the Sparrow Unit members as Jerry Saltin, Mariginte Tabodilio, Rolando Salarde, Alejandro Pegula, Freddie Bernale, and Bert Poras. The hitmen allegedly planned to kidnap a Japanese businessman in Iloilo City. Sistoza, however, refused to identify the businessman so as not to foil a follow-up operation being carried out to arrest one more urban terrorist in the city.

First Quarter Trade Deficit at $877 Million

HK1705074390 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 17 May 90 p 8

[By researcher Grace C. Sison]

[Text] With the demand for imported products continuing to rise even as the growth of the export industry slows down, the country's merchandise trade deficit widened further in March to reach the biggest quarterly gap in the last eight years.

Based on the latest monthly report of the National Statistics Office [NSO], the merchandise trade deficit reached $877 million at the end of the first quarter this year. This was almost double the $442-million gap registered in the same period last year. the end-March gap also surpassed the $733-million deficit reported during the January-to-April period last year and was only $64 million short of the $941-million trade shortfall reported as of end-may last year.

Industry sources attributed the swelling trade gap to the heavy arrivals of imported products which are flooding the market. This was mainly the result of the government's import liberalization program. Recent reports indicated that a group of non-government organizations is pushing for the shelving of the program. This urgent call, according to the group, was made in the light of the group's claim that an export-oriented, import-dependent and debt-ridden economy has pushed the country deeper in crisis.

With the country's heavy dependence on imported products, many analysts believe that the foreign trade woes will worsen in the coming months as imports are expected to continue growing faster than exports.

According to the NSO, import arrivals reached $2,823 million during the first quarter of this year. This marked a double-digit rise of 27.16 percent from the $2,220 million reported in the same period last year. An NSO source said the huge import spending of the first three months this year could be traced to the heavy importations last March which surpassed the $1-billion level. For the month of March alone, imports reached an all-time high of $1,046 million.

The NSO said 74 out of the 30,070 export documents and 68 out of 30,236 import entries for March are still expected from the outports.

All the major import commodity groupings registered increases during the period under review, ranging from a high of 62.60 percent posted by the machinery and transport equipment (from $482.858 million to $785.105 million) to a low of 4.85 percent reported by inedible crude materials except fuel (from $124.122 million to $130.142 million). The NSO said one of the major factors for the hefty growth of the importations of the machinery and transport equipment group was the purchase of three sets of turbine generator units amounting to $35.4 million.

The top 10 leading import goods during the first quarter this year were the following: mineral fuel, lubricants and related materials ($398.71 million), machinery other than electric ($356.81 million), electric machinery, apparatus and appliances ($266.05 million), transport equipment ($202.25 million), materials and accessories imported on consignment basis for the manufacture of semiconductor devices ($201.98 million), base metals ($164.71 million), textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles and related products ($122.19 million), explosives and miscellaneous chemical materials and products ($116.16 million), chemical elements and compounds ($112.46 million), and cereals and cereal preparations ($108.4 million).

In contrast to the double-digit increase posted by the import sector, the export industry exhibited a slower growth during the three-month period. Exports as of end-March this year stood at $1,946 million, up by a single-digit 9.45 percent from the year-ago's $1,778 million.

Foreign Trade Update

January 1988 to March 1990

(F.O.B. Value in Million US$)

	Total Trade	Exports	Imports	Surplus/
				(Deficit)
1990				
January	1,441	586	855	(269)
February	1,573	651	922	(271)
March	1,755	709	1,046	(337)
Sub-total	4,769	1,946	2,823	(877)
1989				
January	1,280	576	704	(128)
February	1,226	566	660	(95)
March	1,491	636	855	(219)
Sub-total	3,998	1,778	2,220	(442)
April	1,581	647	938	(290)
May	1,559	677	885	(208)

June	1,524	659	870	(210)
July	1,633	707	929	(221)
August	1,633	665	999	(334)
September	1,533	677	862	(185)
October	1,645	676	969	(292)
November	1,545	651	894	(243)
December	1,535	682	853	(171)
Total	18,241	7,821	10,419	(2,598)

Note: Components may not add up to total due to rounding.

Source: National Statistics Office

Thailand

Reportage on Developments in Cambodia Situation

Chawalit Views Cease-Fire Issue

OW2105145890 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Thai Defense Minister Chawalit [Yongchaiyut] will mediate the Cambodian peace talks, which are scheduled to be held in Tokyo early next month. In an interview with NHK today, he disclosed that the four factions in Cambodia have basically agreed to accept a cease-fire supervised by the United Nations. He indicated that an agreement on a cease-fire is likely to be reached when the talks are held in Tokyo.

Premier Hun Sen of the Heng Samrin regime, Prince Sihanouk and other leaders of the three anti-Vietnamese factions are scheduled to meet at the Tokyo talks on the Cambodian issue. The Heng Samrin regime and the three factions continue to confront each other.

Today, on the eve of the Tokyo talks, Chawalit, who coordinates views among the four factions, granted an interview to NHK. Saying that the talks will be held to clarify the role of the United Nations, he disclosed that the four factions have reached a basic agreement on the following points:

[Begin Chawalit recording in Thai, with Japanese translation provided in subtitles] The role of the United Nations is to confirm that the Vietnamese troops have withdrawn from Cambodia and to ascertain whether or not external assistance to the factions has stopped. [end recording]

The Thai defense minister added that it will be possible to reach an agreement at the Tokyo talks on important principles for realizing a cease-fire at an early date. He also said that he thinks the agreement will be satisfactory to all the interested parties.

As to when the cease-fire will come into force, Chawalit said that it will take a considerably long time before the United Nations actually starts moving. He expressed the view that, even if an agreement is reached at the Tokyo talks, it will still take a long time before a cease-fire comes into effect.

The informal meeting in Jakarta last February on a solution to the Cambodian issue failed to produce an accord on UN intervention. However, since Chawalit is practically the highest official in charge of preparations for the Tokyo talks, his remarks in today's interview merit attention.

PRC-SRV Talks Discussed

BK2205004990 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 May 90 p 3

[Text] Vietnam and China have agreed to endorse an agreement between Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen that a National Supreme Council should comprise six members from each of the two rival governments. The agreement was reached during Deputy Vietnamese Foreign Minister Dinh Ngo Liem's recent meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Qi Qichen, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said yesterday.

Both the prince and Hun Sen agreed the council should be formed in a communique issued after their meeting in Bangkok earlier this year.

Mr Thach was speaking to reporters shortly after arriving in Bangkok following his European tour of Germany, Sweden and Italy. Mr Thach, who is in Bangkok for a two-day stopover, met Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday afternoon. He is scheduled to hold talks with Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila this morning.

Commenting on the recent round of talks between Vietnam and China on normalisation of their ties, Mr Thach said both sides have made concession on the Cambodian issue—a major stumbling block—although divergences remain. He said both China and Vietnam endorsed a United Nations involvement in the settlement.

Nguyen Co Thach Meets Sitthi

BK2205143390 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach met Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila at the Foreign Ministry today at 0830. The two held talks for 45 minutes.

Somphong Faichampa, director general of the Information Department, reported after the meeting that Nguyen Co Thach thanked Thailand for its efforts toward solving the Cambodian problem. He quoted Nguyen Co Thach as saying that he began to see the light at the end of the tunnel for the Cambodian problem.

The director general said that Vietnam believes the Cambodian problem has been narrowed in scope, leaving only a few major issues to be tackled. First is the question of how to hold a free and fair election; second is how to observe the cease-fire in a manner that would prevent regrouping in Cambodia; and third is the question of the UN role in Cambodia.

Somphong said that Vietnam supports the meeting in Tokyo, and that it hopes that Hun Sen, the prime minister of the Phnom Penh regime, will be flexible at the Tokyo meeting. Nguyen Co Thach said that, geographically speaking, Thailand and Vietnam share a common border with Cambodia, and therefore will feel any repercussions if anything happens in Cambodia.

The director general of the Information Department said that Nguyen Co Thach expressed the hope that more discussions and exchanges of views between Thailand and Vietnam would be held, as this would contribute to solving the Cambodian problem.

The director general said that a political settlement of the Cambodian problem is like a jigsaw puzzle, and that there is hope for a solution now that Vietnam and China plan to meet early next month prior to the meeting in Tokyo, the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plan to meet, and finally the UN Security Council will be meeting in Paris.

Concerning bilateral relations between Thailand and Vietnam, Nguyen Co Thach told the Thai foreign minister that Vietnam is learning from and applying Thailand's method of economic development. He praised Thailand for its successful free trade system and the reform of foreign currency transfers. The Vietnamese foreign minister stressed that there are many things Vietnam can learn from Thailand. Vietnam also called for cooperation with Thailand in rice trading. The Thai foreign minister said that Thailand is ready to cooperate with Vietnam in economic development. On rice trading, he said both countries should cooperate in not trying to cut prices.

Cites 'Minor' Cambodia Problems

BK2205065090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0645 GMT 22 May 90

[Excerpts] Bangkok, May 22 (AFP)—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said here Tuesday [22 May] he could see the "light at the end of the tunnel" for the Cambodian war. Thai Foreign Ministry Spokesman Somphong Faichampa quoted Mr. Thach as saying at a meeting here with his Thai counterpart Sitthi Sawetsila that "the Cambodian problem is seeing the light at the end of the tunnel."

During the 45-minute talks with Mr. Sitthi, Mr. Thach said that only a few "minor" problems remained to be tackled. These included how to organise free and fair elections, how to prevent regrouping after a cease-fire and what type of United Nations involvement in Cambodia would be allowed, Mr. Somphong said.

Vietnamese Embassy officials said Mr. Thach arrived here Monday on a two-day stopover following visits to West Germany, Italy and Sweden.

He also said he supported Thailand's initiatives on a Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting in Tokyo and added, without elaborating, that he hoped Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen "would be more flexible in Tokyo," Mr. Somphong said.

Mr. Thach said that after making "reciprocal concessions" Hanoi and Beijing had accepted the agreement by Mr. Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Sihanouk to create an interim council pending general elections. [passage omitted]

Mr. Somphong said there would be another round of talks between Hanoi and Beijing early next month prior to the Tokyo meeting, but declined to provide further details.

'All' Cambodian Factions To Meet

BK2205132290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1311 GMT 22 May 90

[Excerpt] Bangkok, May 22 (AFP)— All warring Cambodian factions are to meet in Tokyo in June for peace talks, Thai Government Spokesman Suwit Yotmani said here Tuesday. Mr. Suwit told reporters after a meeting between Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan that Mr. Thach was "pleased to know that all the Cambodian factions are going to meet in Tokyo from June 4 to 6."

When pressed by reporters to confirm that the meeting would include the main guerrilla faction, the Khmer Rouge, Mr. Suwit said: "I mean representatives from all factions." Mr. Thach, reacting to the statement, told reporters: "There are only two governments in Cambodia."

The peace talks will apparently be structured bilaterally with the Chinese-backed resistance meeting the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government. The resistance, which holds Cambodia's seat in the United Nations, includes three factions: the Marxist Khmer Rouge, and noncommunist loyalists of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and of former Prime Minister Son Sann.

The bilateral format, which is also the structure for a proposed supreme council to guarantee Cambodian sovereignty after a cease-fire, was apparently a compromise between Phnom Penh's demand not to talk to the Khmer Rouge, and resistance demands for the Khmer Rouge to take part in the peace process.

Mr. Thach was quoted as saying here earlier Tuesday that he saw "light at the end of the tunnel" for the Cambodian war. He was quoted as making the statement by Thai Foreign Ministry Spokeman Somphong Faichampa during a meeting with Thai Foreign minister Sitthi Sawetsila.

Mr. Thach said during his 45-minute talk with Mr. Sitthi that only a few "minor" problems remained to be tackled. Among them were how to organise free and fair elections, how to prevent regrouping after a cease-fire, and what type of United Nations involvement in Cambodia would be allowed, Mr. Somphong said.

Prince Sihanouk said Tuesday in Cambodia, near the Thai border, that a cease-fire in Cambodia was to be announced shortly. But he predicted "an intensification" of the war because the cease-fire was not to come under immediate international verification and the warring sides would still try to gain ground. The cease-fire was to be announced at the meeting in Tokyo, he said.

Mr. Thach also asked Thailand to help negotiate with U.S. President George Bush on normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese diplomatic ties, broken since the end of the Vietnam war. He also asked Bangkok to help Vietnam improves ties with Japan, which has joined the United States in an economic boycott of Vietnam to punish Hanoi for backing the Phnom Penh regime. [passage omitted]

Accord Reached With Laos on Mekong Patrols

BK2105020490 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 May 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Thailand and Laos have agreed in principle to step up security cooperation by conducting joint patrols on the Mekong River, outgoing Laotian Ambassador Khamphan Simmalavong said over the weekend. Khamphan told THE NATION in an interview that both countries would work out details for patrolling the 1,300-km river, which serves as their natural boundary, at an upcoming meeting of officials in Nakhon Phanom on Friday.

Thai and Laotian governors from border provinces on both sides are scheduled to meet this weekend for the first time [to] discuss the whole spectrum of Thai-Lao cooperation. "If everything works out, the plan to conduct joint patrols will be finalized there," the envoy said.

Khamphan said the idea for Thai-Lao patrols of the river was agreed upon between Deputy Prime Minister Gen [General] Chawalit Yongchaiyut and Gen Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the Laotian armed forces, in a recent meeting. The joint patrolling would represent the first concrete effort by the two countries to avoid a reoccurrence of conflicts on the Mekong River that have strained relations in the past.

Khamphan, a veteran envoy who acts as the dean of the diplomatic corps in Bangkok, suggested that security officials from the two countries could operate from the same boats. Thai and Laotian security officials at present independently patrol the river on their side of the border. Armed clashes, which on many occasions escalated into major disputes, were common in the past because of mutual suspicions.

There are at least 40 flash points along Thai-Lao border which need to be monitored and closely supervised, security sources said. They include spots frequently used for cross-river trading and smuggling.

Incidents on the Thai-Lao border have been rare since Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan came to office in 1988 with a more open policy towards Indochina.

Ambassador Khamphan said Thai-Lao relations have improved considerably and both sides are making efforts to secure a peaceful environment. He said Thailand and Laos plan to cooperate in fishing and tourism in the Mekong River and to step up security to protect villagers on both sides of the river from criminal activity.

There is currently no official fishing cooperation agreement between the two governments, according to the envoy. Thais and Laos fish at will in the Mekong River and sometimes clash.

Thai provinces bordering Laos are Nakhon Phanom, Udon Thani, Ubon Ratchathani, Sakon Nakhon, Loei, Nong Khai, Mukdahan, Nan Phitsanulok and Chiang Rai. Facing these provinces are Bokeo, Khammouan, Udomsai, Sayaboury, Savannakhet, Saravan, Bolikhamsai, Vientiane and Champassak.

Khamphan said at the next Thai-Lao meeting at a national level, he will raise the question of Lao resistance groups operating along the border.

Saudi Diplomats Said Targeted for Assassination

BK2205045890 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 22 May 90 pp 1, 22

[Text] At 1500 yesterday, Police General Sawaeng Thirasawat, director general of the Police Department, called a meeting of officials concerned with the security of Saudi Embassy officials to discuss security measures. The Police Department had received a report from the Saudi Embassy about a plan of a Middle East espionage group to assassinate Saudi diplomats in Thailand.

According to a THAI RAT reporter, the Police Department's Foreign Affairs Division received a report from the Saudi Embassy on 18 May saying its intelligence indicated that seven men belonging to a hostile Middle East organization were planning to enter Thailand to assassinate its officials in Bangkok. The report identified the seven by name, and noted that they included four or five Lebanese and one to two Greeks.

Police Major General Kriangkrai Kannasut, chief of the Immigration Police, has been informed of the matter.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Pays Official Visit

BK2105143690 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai and Thanphuying Bunruan Chunhawan welcomed Bangladesh Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed and his wife at the Air

Force Command Airport at 1400 today. The Bangladesh prime minister arrived for an official visit to Thailand as a guest of the Thai Government. He will be visiting from 21 to 25 May, in order to strengthen ties between the two countries. He will hold consultations with the Thai prime minister on trade and economic cooperation.

Thailand and Bangladesh established diplomatic relations on 5 October 1972. The two countries have a similar line of foreign policy. Bangladesh supports the stand of ASEAN and Thailand on the Cambodian issue. They have set up a joint commission for economic, social and political cooperation which meets once every year.

During their stay in Thailand, the Bangladesh prime minister and his wife will be granted an audience with their majesties the king and queen.

Commentary on Relations With Burma Reported

'Oriental' Policy Viewed

BK1805030190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 May 90 p 8

[Article by Yindi Loetcharoenchok: "An 'Oriental' Policy for Burma"]

[Text] While the international community has been criticizing the Rangoon military regime for its gross human rights violations and harsh suppression of dissent, Thailand has chosen to maintain and expand contact with the Burmese rulers on the pretext of trying to promote economic growth and democracy in the neighbouring country. But it was not until last week that Thai officials publicly set out their controversial policy towards Burma.

Their position was presented at a one-day seminar on Thai-Burmese Relations at Chiang Mai University last Saturday.

Political Contacts

Since the political uprising in Burma in early 1988, Thailand has taken the position that unrest in that country is an "internal Burmese affair in which Thailand has no right to interfere." This has since become a catch phrase used to ward of any international criticism about Thailand's contacts with the Rangoon regime.

This passive logic, however, has not been applied in matters of national economic interest. Burma's raw materials are needed for Thai industries, it is argued, and the country is a potential market for Thai products, making economic contacts with the ruling junta necessary.

Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpahan and National Security Council Secretary General Suwit Sutthanukun expressed the opinion at last week's seminar that Burma, after 27 years of self-imposed isolation, needs time and opportunity to foster democracy.

According to the two leaders, Thailand, which shares a 1,600-kilometre land frontier with Burma, has always been at hand to help a needy friend and has never ignored public calls for human rights and democracy, but has its own strategy and procedure in dealing with these issues. They contended that the Thai approach of contacting and pulling Burma onto the world stage will stabilize the country and force Burma into economic and political reforms. "Western and Oriental societies are different ... and the West tends to apply its standards to an Oriental country without considering the reality," they argued.

The Deputy Foreign Minister said the West's political boycott and economic sanctions would only backfire on already-suffering Burmese civilians, pushing Burma into a position where it closes its doors again on the world.

Suwit, whose office is responsible for Thai policy formulation, asserted his beliefs that dictatorship does not last and that no country simply makes the leap overnight to democracy. "We can't blame the Burmese leaders; (we) only need to tell them that they need to reform. An immediate concession (to popular demands) would only lead the country into anarchy and disintegration," the secretary general said.

Speakers at the seminar came to a general consensus that democratization was a long process and that Burma with its diverse ethnic make-up and internal unrest would achieve full-blown democracy only step-by-step.

They agreed not to make any predictions about the outcome of the upcoming elections in Burma, only expressing confidence that Gen Saw Maung and the other generals were sincere in reforming their country and in their pledge to hold "free and fair" elections. However, two years have passed since the uprising of 1988, and there has been no significant improvement in the human-rights situation in Burma, either in a "step-by-step" manner or otherwise. Reports continue to filter out of the country from diplomatic sources of summary arrests, torture, detention of opposition politicians and mass relocations.

For its part, Thailand, whose relations with Burma are probably at their best in the history of the two countries, appears ready to stand idle while the situation worsens.

Security Interests

Thailand for the past two years has clearly and consistently declared its support for the Rangoon regime and maintained that it has never supported or provided sanctuary for anti-government ethnic forces fighting Rangoon.

Third Army Region Commander Lt Gen Siri Thiwaphan, who attended the Chiang Mai forum to discuss the security aspect of the issue, concurs with border security forces that the fighting, which has dragged on for the past four decades, will not cease in the foreseeable future unless a peace settlement is reached.

Several attempts on the part of the Thai government to persuade Rangoon to accept the idea of peace negotiations have failed, and even former Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, who built up close relations with Gen Saw Maung, was unsuccessful in conveying the idea to the Burmese Army.

An intelligence officer involved in security along the Thai-Burmese border for the past decade said he believes political reform in Burma could resolve economic and ethnic problems as well as public discontent.

Some major ethnic groups, many of whom have already accepted a federal union system, have indicated their preference for peace negotiations over continuing their struggle and have informed Rangoon of their readiness for talks, he noted. But Rangoon still believes it can wipe out those it considers insurgents.

Burmese Ambassador to Thailand U Nyunt Swe told The Nation recently that at present, the Burmese military considered total surrender of the minorities as the only solution to the conflicts and any peace talks would be up to the new elected government.

According to the intelligence officer, Thailand could play a major role in easing its neighbour out of its crisis by using its economic leverage to press Rangoon to accept political reform and a lenient attitude towards negotiations with the ethnic groups.

Trade Policy Faulted

BK1905063590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 May 90 p 8

[Editorial: "High-Level Hypocrisy"]

[Text] Top government officials such as Deputy Foreign Minister Praphat Limpaphan are pushing the idea that there is a distinction between "Western" and "Eastern" ways of treating the issues of human rights and democratic development, particularly as those issues relate to Burma. The idea is not just an example of poor moral judgement, it is potentially a very dangerous form of justification.

The officials, in a seminar on Thai-Burmese relations last Saturday, [12 May] argued that trade contacts with the current regime in Rangoon were justifiable because of the economic progress they would bring, which in turn would foster a more democratic atmosphere. The Western call for sanctions and their continued effort to isolate Burma, they contended, was just an example of the West's bias towards the use of pressure to force countries to accept their version of human rights.

This line of argument adds insult to the injuries the Burmese people have already sustained at the hands of their leaders. It was bad enough that Thailand was maintaining a cynical policy towards Burma in order to protect business interest, but to hear it justified in such a manner is genuinely painful.

The Thai policy makers claimed Thailand is trying to help Burma integrate into the international community—through trade with the government or the government-controlled private sector. We should not isolate Burma, so the argument goes, as that would only cause it to retreat further into backwardness and repression. It is worthwhile to give this position a little examination.

First, Burmese leaders have already isolated themselves from the world community through their brutal treatment of their citizens—stamping out dissent, expropriating the country's natural resources, relocating them from their homes and robbing them of their freedom.

Those challenging the authorities are imprisoned and often tortured, unless their names are well-known to the world media, in which case they are only kept under house arrest. It is unlikely that trying to "bring Burma out" will make any difference to a dictatorship notorious for its resistance to change.

Time and again, Thai leaders have argued that as a neighbour, Thailand has to support the present regime because it serves Thai interests. Certainly at present the power-brokers in both countries are ably serving each other's greed. Despite pleasant noises about democratization, the Thai leaders know full well that the general elections on May 27 will result in a victory for the military-backed National Unity Party [NUP]. They also know full well that the NUP does not enjoy the backing of the majority of the Burmese. One can only conclude that Thailand's policy of non-pressure is based on the vested interests of the powers that be.

Another fallcy is that the call for protection of human rights is motivated by a Western desire to meddle in the internal affairs of Burma. This assertion is used frequently, especially in countries where the population at large does not enjoy freedom of expression. What is ignored is that the concept of human rights is not exclusively Western. It is universal—it is in fact a very Buddhist idea. Lord Buddha teaches us to be compassionate—to respect individual rights and the value of every living soul on earth.

The hidden danger is that arguing that only Western countries are concerned with imposing human rights can be applied domestically as well as to foreign affairs. Thai leaders should know better, given what this country went through in October 1973 and 1976.

Sooner or later, the Burmese leaders will go, as they do not enjoy the support of their people. The question is whether Thailand will side with an oppressed people or a small group of despots. The world is watching Thailand, as there are world-wide standards for it to live up to.

Role in Teak Logging Criticized

BK1905093990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 May 90 p 4

[Article by James Pringle in Wawle, Thai-Burmese Border "Thais Lending a Big Helping Hand in the Rape of Teak Forests"]

[Text] For two miles along the Thai-Burmese border at Wawle, they lie like fallen sentinels—tens of thousands of hardwood logs bearing a code-number and stamped "Burma teak." Standing on the short bridge—also made of teak—linking Thailand and Burma at this frontier crossing point, one can watch the huge trucks roaring into Thailand, each with its cargo of trunks, big and small. The largest intact tropical forest in mainland Asia is just dribbling away.

One foreign relief agency official who is familiar with the frontier area here calls what is happening in Burma the beginning of an "ecological catastrophe. The Burmese military regime is allowing the Thais to rape one of the finest remaining teak stands in the world," he says.

After the military takeover and ruthless suppression of the pro-democracy movement in Rangoon in September 1988, the Burmese State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) of front man Gen [general] Saw Maung was strapped for cash with which to pursue its war against ethnic minorities like the Karen in the border areas. It was down in its last US$10 million in foreign reserves.

Now it is relatively flush with funds, and has been buying new weapons, thanks to foreign investment last year worth US$1 billion.

After the killings, Western governments had cut off most aid and were discouraging investment. But at that moment Thai Army commander, now deputy prime minister, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut visited Burma and paved the way that led to generous logging, gem and fishing deals. A total of 40 logging concessions gave Thailand access to one of the world's last great teak forests.

Thailand's own forest cover had fallen from over 50 percent in the early 1960s to 18 percent now. After floods killed 351 people in southern Thailand in 1988, and which were blamed on deforested hillsides, the Thai Government banned logging inside the country. The Burma deal came just at the right time to keep Thailand's sawmills going.

Karen leaders claim that part of the deal involved assisting the Burmese to clear out minority ethnic groups like themselves, the Karenni and Mon along the border. These groups helped finance their insurgencies by logging in a comparatively minor way in the past.

Curbing the insurgencies would enable Thai companies to cut the trees unhindered by middlemen. Now, foreign relief agency officials say the Thai companies are at present ripping out the wood as fast as they can. A visit to Wawle confirms this. Wawle was the main Karen trading post, but it was captured late last January sending 2,800 Karens fleeing into Thailand where they are now in a make-shift camp of bamboo and leaves.

"The only people who can cross the border here are those who have timber concessions," a Burmese officer told this correspondent as a Thai pick-up van loaded with Thai log-cutters passed into Burma. It bore the words:" "Zilar International Trading Company—ZITCO." These workers, like the thousands of other Thai loggers who work inside Burma, wear a small laminated badge as a kind of passport.

The officer, a 39-year-old major from a regiment near Mandalay, is commander in the Burmese village of Wawle—or what is left of it. The blackened stumps of the remains of the Karens' homes, burned down by the Burmese after all moveable goods were sold off, are all that is left. The major was on the Thai side of the border, where the village is also called Wawle, with half a dozen uniformed Burmese soldiers who were selling rice to Thai traders that the fleeing Karens had left behind.

Burmese troops cross into Thailand here at will, the only stipulation being that they do not bring their weapons. A sign on the Thai end of the frontier bridge says simply: "No arms—Thai army."

Karen officials claim that when they logged in the past they did so selectively, using the British "Burma Selection System" to guarantee teak stocks would be replenished. Now they say that the teak stands here and elsewhere along the border, which are home to rare elephants , rhinoceros, tapir and the hornbill, are being torn down with heavy equipment.

Saw Ba Thin, a Karen leader, said at his headquarters at Manerplaw, inside Burma: "Yes, we sold teak in order to gain revenue, but we didn't have bulldozers, tractors or trucks to exploit the forest. All the Karen people know teak belongs to their forefathers and their children and grandchildren, so we cut the teak stands selectively using elephants and our muscle power only. They (the Thai logging companies) are cutting indiscriminately because they don't care for the future. One year of their cutting is equal to 10 years of ours, and they don't replant the teak as we did."

Aung Mya Thein, aged 40, former headmaster here at Wawle before it was overrun, said at a nearby displaced persons camp: "Even under colonialism, the British had strict rules for preserving the teak. They replanted trees and took care of the forest and we followed their methods. But now the teak stands are cut down without any care. The trees, big and small, are just hacked away."

However, some Burma-watchers say the Karen are being less than frank and that their own teak extraction was limited only by lack of heavy equipment, even though the forest represented their refuge and source of revenue—revenue that has now been cut by 50 percent.

Burmese students who sought refuge in Thailand after Burmese army attacks claim the Burmese troops are striking against ethnic camps in areas where Thai logging concessions have been sold. "It is plain they want to clear out the ethnic minorities so that logging by Thai companies can go on unhindered," one student said.

Vietnam

MIA Cooperation Lauded; Solomon Criticized

BK2105114090 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 21 May 90

[Station Commentary: "Vietnam's Active Cooperation with the United States on the Question of Americans Missing in Action"]

[Text] In recent years, due to American policies, Vietnam and the United States have not cooperated in political, economic and social fields. However, stemming from the good will for peace, friendship and cooperation with the United States, Vietnam has expressed readiness to cooperate with the US in whatever fields proposed by the US side, and specifically in the question of Americans missing in the Vietnam war.

For over a year, Vietnam has joined the United States in 10 major searches for information on the remains of American pilots reported missing during the war. The latest joint search conducted by joint teams of American and Vietnamese specialists ended on 10 May. It is interesting to note that the Vietnamese Government created favorable conditions during the 10 searches in 24 provinces. The undertaking also involved investigation into some 100 registered cases of MIA and 6 rounds of identification conducted by the mixed teams. The US highly valued Vietnam's cooperation and assistance in the search for the remains of the MIA's. Over the past 10 years, Vietnam has handed over to the US side 404 sets of remains, 243 of them have been returned to the US side since September 1987 following the first trip to Vietnam by General John Vessey, special envoy of the US President.

American and Vietnamese specialists are expected to meet again on 26 May for an overview of the joint search. In fact, the joint search for the remains of MIA's is modest in the light of state-to-state relations. However, this is of significance, given the fact that American-Vietnamese relations have not been normalized. One thing is sure—that the joint search would have been impossible without Vietnam's good will and active role.

Vietnam wishes that the efforts in this humanitarian issue will step by step contribute to normalizing relations with the United States. Regrettably enough, the US has not recognized this. In recent days, an American government official has taken action detrimental to Vietnam's good will. For example, within two months, Mr. Richard Solomon, assistant to the secretary of state, twice stated that the US would not proceed with normalizing relations with Vietnam until the Cambodian problem is solved. Mr. Solomon went to the length of persuading other countries not to contact or establish relations with Vietnam. This is an erroneous and outdated act at a time when international relations have become a law in the world political and economic lives and when extension of economic ties has become an urgent demand of all states irrespective of social and political systems. Mr. Solomon's action also shows that Washington is uncomfortable because many countries including Western ones are setting up economic relations with Vietnam. Vietnam hopes that what Mr. Solomon stated, did not reflect the views of the US Government and despite these words, Vietnam will continue to cooperate with the US in the fields of common interests. This is because normalizing relations between the two countries is not only an aspiration of the Vietnamese people but also American.

Comment on U.S. Military Presence Statement

BK2105131990 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew told pressmen in Singapore before leaving for France that the United States should maintain its forces in Asia and the Pacific. Lee Kuan Yew's statement runs counter to the common trend in the region for the reduction of U.S. military presence in Asia and the Pacific.

Vo Van Kiet, Vo Dong Giang Visit Sweden

BK2005095690 Hanoi VNA in English 0829 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 19—First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet visited Sweden from May 13-16.

He was accompanied by Cabinet Minister Vo Dong Giang, deputy head of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment with Foreign Countries.

The delegation was greeted on its arrival in Stockholm by Minister of Environment Ms. Birgitta Dahl. During his stay in Sweden, Vice-Chairman Vo Van Kiet met with Deputy Prime Minister Odd Engstrom and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Lena Hjeim Wallen, held talks with Minister of Foreign Trade Anita Gradin, had contacts with high-ranking governmemt officials and businessmen, attended an economic seminar, and toured several major economic establishments.

In those meetings and contacts, the Swedish side expressed their joy at positive changes in Vietnam, and affirmed their support for its national construction and economic development. The hosts voiced their belief that the visit would contribute to the further strengthening of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

On behalf of the Vietnamese government and people, Vo Van Kiet expressed his thank to the Swedish government and people for their valuable assistance and support to Vietnam. He expressed his wish for further strengthening and broadening the cooperation between the two countries in the economic, trade and scientific and technological fields, and affirmed the Vietnamese people's determination to step up the process of renovation in Vietnam and strengthening their friendship and cooperation with all other countries.

Vo Van Kiet Interviewed

PM1605132790 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 14 May 90 (NARINGSLIV section) p 3

[Report on interview with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet by Carina Beckerman in Stockholm; date not given"]

[Excerpt] "I hope we succeed in reaching a cooperation agreement on commerical flights with SAS [Scandinavian Air Services] while I am here," Vietnamese Vice Chairman Vo Van Kiet said. Vo Van Kiet, who is in Sweden for the first time, is here as the guest of Foreign Trade Minister Anita Gradin. He will also visit major Swedish companies such as ABB [Asea Brown Boveri], Ericsson, and SAS. "We want to learn how you manage your economy and to create contacts not only with your political leadership, but also with private companies and entrepreneurs," Vo Van Kiet said.

[Beckerman] It is said that you are the man behind Vietnam's new economic policy.

[Vo Van Kiet] The economic changes have their origin in the wishes of the Vietnamese people. They are also the result of what we have learned from the course of events in other countries. I do have some share in the process; I am the man who will have to pay the price if the new economic policy fails.

[Beckerman] What is your view of what is happening in Europe? Could the same thing happen in Vietnam?

[Vo Van Kiet] We want to learn from what is happening in East Europe, but you have to take account of the specific conditions in each country. Vietnam does not intend to copy East Europe.

[Beckerman] Can the economic policy in Vietnam succeed without political changes?

[Vo Van Kiet] Economic stability cannot be achieved without political and social stability, but we must move cautiously where changes are concerned. We started from a much poorer point of departure than the East European countries and have had many problems along the way. We have learned from East Europe that a democratization of political and social conditions is also needed.

[Beckerman] How would you describe the situation in Vietnam today?

[Vo Van Kiet] We can be proud. In a short time we have reduced hyperinflation and radically improved living conditions. We have regained the confidence of the people.

[Beckerman] You invest more in your military defenses than all the other countries of Southeast Asia put together. Why don't you use this money to build up your country?

[Vo Van Kiet] This is something conditioned by history and is due to our borders with China and Cambodia. There was no alternative other than to say "yes" when Cambodia asked for military help. However, we have paid a high price and lost some of our friends as a result. We ourselves have not received any material reward for our sacrifices. Instead we have more burdens and difficulties.

There is now a new situation prevailing in Southeast Asia. We are demobilizing the army. We still have far too high a level of military spending, but this will be reduced in the future. Today a large part of expenditure goes to the military personnel who are being demobilized and who have no work. It also goes to those who have suffered and made sacrifices.

[Beckerman] The younger generation in Vietnam is longing for more contacts with the rest of the world. How might the generation gap affect what is happening now?

[Vo Van Kiet] The young should learn how to better understand what sacrifices are needed to improve our country. On the other hand, many mistakes were made after the last war. We were ~~not we~~ quick enough to understand the needs of the younger generation.

It is always the case in Vietnam that there are two extreme views. Now there are those who are worried about the economic reforms and who grumble. Then there are those who think that we are proceeding much too slowly. That is how things were during the war as well. Some people thought we should take all risks for a swift victory. Others thought we should simply give in to the rich Americans. [passage omitted]

Sweden Gives Assistance for Industrial Projects

BK1805153690 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—A ceremony was held at the Thong Nhat match factory here on May 17 by the Ministry of Light Industry to mark the hand-over of three Swedish-financed industrial rehabilitation projects.

The projects include the Thong Nhat match factory of Hanoi, the medical glass factory of Hai Hung Province and the Thang Long tailoring factory of Hanoi.

The Swedish-financed industrial rehabilitation programme elaborated in an agreement signed by the governments of Vietnam and Sweden in November 1988 includes the glass factory in Phu Tho Town of Vinh Phu Province, the pencil line of the Cau Duong wood factory on the outskirts of Hanoi and the refrigeration equipment factory in Hanoi, whose construction is now nearing its end.

The Swedish Government has also assisted Vietnam with one million Swedish kronor for personnel training in service of the six projects. At present, a seminar is being held at the Cau Duong wood factory under the theme "improve your business."

Nguyen Co Thach Visits Belgium, Meets Eyskens

BK1805005490 Hanoi VNA in English 1538 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 17—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach visited the Kingdom of Belgium from May 14-15.

While there, Nguyen Co Thach held talks with his Belgian counterpart Mark Eyskens. The two sides exchanged views on the relationship between the two countries and matters of mutual concern. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach informed his counterpart of the renovation in Vietnam and affirmed that Vietnam had withdrawn all its army volunteers from Cambodia. He also spoke of positive efforts already made in the settlement of the Cambodia issue and reaffirmed Vietnam's stand in normalizing and improving its relationship with neighbouring countries and others in the world. Minister Nguyen Co Thach welcomed Belgium's and other EEC member countries' stance towards the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea at the United Nations General Assembly next fall.

The Belgian official valued highly important achievements gained in Vietnam's renovation, welcomed the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese army volunteers from Cambodia and reaffirmed Belgium's stance in resolutely opposing the restoration of the genocidal regime in Cambodia. He reaffirmed his government's policy on strengthening the friendship and cooperation with Vietnam and supporting the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the European Economic Community and Vietnam.

The two diplomats exchanged views on orientation and measures to enhance the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The Belgian foreign minister accepted the invitation to pay a visit to Vietnam at a time convenient for both sides.

While in Belgium, Nguyen Co Thach exchanged ideas with other high-ranking Belgian officials on the promotion of economic and trade ties between the two countries, and met with a number of Belgian and Luxemburg businessmen.

Hanoi Denounces PRC Activities in Spratlys

OW1805212090 Hanoi International Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] According to Vietnam's State Commission for UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanography, the fact that China has continued to use UNESCO's name to legalize China's oceanographic and naval activities in the Truong Sa [Spratly] region within the SRV's territory constitutes a violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam and a violation of international law. In March 1988, UNESCO formally notified the SRV's State Commission for UNESCO that it never cooperated with China in setting up the oceanographic research station in the Truong Sa region. UNESCO also denied the statement by a senior Chinese official that UNECSO had asked China to set up the station in that region.

Commentary Praises Thailand's Policy on Cambodia

BK1805091190 Hanoi International Service in Thai 1130 GMT 17 May 90

[Commentary by station correspondent]

[Text] Through coordination with certain countries, the Chatchai Chunhawan government organized meetings between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk in search of a solution to the Cambodian problem. In early May, Thai Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan appealed to Prince Sihanouk to attend a meeting with Chairman Hun Sen in Tokyo. Earlier, in February Prime Minister Chatchai arranged the sixth meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk in Bangkok. In addition to these efforts, the Thai Government also initiated trade contacts and expansion with the Cambodian Government.

Speaking to civil servants and businessmen in Prachin Buri Province on 1 April, Gen. Chatchai said the attitude of the previous Thai government toward Democratic Cambodia was outdated and discouraged the movement toward national reconciliation in Cambodia. The Thai Government's present policy is to open the door to contacts with the Phnom Penh government in order to remove whatever impeded national reconciliation in Cambodia. Prime Minister Chatchai said Thailand is determined to expand trade with the Cambodian Government and that he is confident the war in Cambodia will end soon.

Subsequently, the Thai Government opened a border point for trade at Khlong Yai which resulted in active trading through the border. Thailand plans to open a second border trading point and set up a center for trade with Indochina. Oranut Osathanon, director of the Commerce Ministry's Foreign Trade Department, said an increasing number of Thai businessmen are interested in trade with Indochinese customers. He said it is government policy to expand economic and trade cooperation with the Indochinese countries. These positive changes on the part of the Thai Government have served the wishes and interests of the Thai people and corresponded with the trend toward negotiation which is helping turn Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation.

In any event, certain regional and world circles have continued to oppose the wish for peace of the people in Thailand and elsewhere in Southeast Asia. These powerful elements have continued to nurture a negative attitude toward the search for political, fair, and rational measures to solve the fighting in Cambodia. They have tried in every way to aid the genocidal Pol Pot clique and the anti-popular Cambodian resistance groups. For this reason, there are many obstacles to the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem. World public opinion hopes the Chatchai government will persevere in its implementation of the new policy on Cambodia in the interest of the Thai people.

Delegate Speaks at UN Meeting on Human Rights

BK1805154090 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—"The Vietnamese Government's policy of renovation in all fields is aimed at improving the living standard of the people and ensuring that they really enjoy their economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights," said Ms. Dinh Thi Minh Huyen, Vietnamese representative to the May 16 session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc) on the human rights situation all over the world.

The Vietnamese representative continued:

"In recent years, very great and significant steps were taken in Vietnam to promote and protect human rights. In 1986, Vietnam adopted a policy of renovation and has since been busy implementing it in all fields, creating more favourable conditions for the development of all economic sectors. The process of renovation requires the restructuring of the national economy, the formulation of new laws and regulations governing the conduct of the police force and criminal investigations, the organization of lawyers' groups, full respect for the legal principle on the presumption of coercion and corporal punishment in custody and the increased role of defence counsel in the law-court procedures."

Regarding the Cambodian issue, Ms. Dinh Thi Minh Huyen said:

"In spite of the world public condemnation, the Pol Pot clique, perpetrators of the heinous crimes of genocide in Cambodia, have not been brought to trial or punished. The international community and the UN Commission on Human Rights should continue to focus their attention on these questions."

Further Coverage of Ho Chi Minh Anniversary

Soviet Delegation Received

BK1905053190 Hanoi VNA in English 1554 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—Nguyen Van Linh, party general secretary, and Do Muoi, Politburo member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received here this morning the visiting delegation of the Communist Party and State of the Soviet Union led by L.N. Zaykov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU.

On behalf of the Vietnamese party, government and people, the two Vietnamese leaders asked L.N. Zaykov to convey their warmest greetings to Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet party and state leaders and expressed their firm belief that the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, would overcome all trials and hardships to successfully carry out the perestroyka process, thus making good preparations for the forthcoming 28th CPSU congress.

On this occasion, L.N. Zaykov presented the Vietnamese people with a bronze statue of President Ho Chi Minh, a duplicate of the Ho Chi Minh statue officially inaugurated in Moscow today.

Cambodian Delegation Received

BK1905051790 Hanoi VNA in English 1606 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi received here today the visiting high-level party and state delegation of Cambodia led by Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the State of Cambodia.

On behalf of the Vietnamese communists and people, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh said that the party, state and people of Vietnam were resolved to live up to President Ho Chi Minh's testament, trying to make Vietnam a socialist prosperous country, doing their best to consolidate and promote the solidarity, friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Cambodia. After expressing his deep gratitude to the party, state and people of Vietnam for their devoted support and assistance to the Cambodian people's revolutionary cause which, he said, is following the path charted by the late President Ho Chi Minh for the three fraternal Indochinese nations, General Secretary Heng Samrin presented the Vietnamese people with an Apsara statue made of precious wood, a traditional art symbol of Cambodia.

Lao Delegation Received

BK1905052190 Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—Nguyen Van Linh, party general secretary, and Do Muoi, Politburo member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received here today the high-level delegation of the Lao party and state led by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers.

The Vietnamese party leaders expressed sincere thanks to Kaysone Phomvihan, other Lao party and state leaders and the entire fraternal Lao people for their fine sentiments toward President Ho Chi Minh. He said:

"The Vietnamese party, state and people pledged themselves to act upon Ho Chi Minh's teachings in order to constantly consolidate and develop the solidarity, friendship and close cooperation between the parties, state and peoples of the two countries."

In reply, Kaysone Phomvihan spoke highly of President Ho Chi Minh's great contributions to the revolutionary cause of Vietnam and Laos. "We the Lao people have always been grateful to Ho Chi Minh who painstakingly built and laboriously fostered the Lao-Vietnamese special relations," he stressed.

The Lao party leader presented the Vietnamese people with a silver statue of Ho Chi Minh and a woodcarved painting on a meeting between the late Present Ho Chi Minh and Kaysone Phomvihan.

Delegations Pay Tribute

BK1905052890 Hanoi VNA in English 1557 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—Delegations of the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia and India today paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited the late president's home and office.

The wreaths of the delegations of the Soviet Union and India bear the inscription: "Last Tribute to President Ho Chi Minh," the inscription attached to the wreath of the Lao delegation reads: "Great President Ho Chi Minh Lives Forever in the Lao People's Revolution," and that of the Cambodian delegation: "Last Tribute to President Ho Chi Minh, the Great Leader of the Indochinese Communist Party, a National Liberation Hero, and the Most Revered Friend of the Cambodian People."

With these delegations were representatives of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry and the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee's External Relations Commission, and ambassadors of these countries to Vietnam.

Delegates Address Ceremony

BK2005105090 Hanoi VNA in English 0834 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA 19—At the commemorative ceremony held here yesterday in honour of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary, many foreign delegates took the floor to pay tribute to the late Vietnamese leader.

Lev Nikolayevich Zaykov, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, said:

"Comrade Ho Chi Minh did not live until the day of the fulfillment of his dream, that is to see a unified and prosperous Vietnam, but the Vietnamese people, under the leadership of their communist party have fulfilled and are fulfilling these tasks.

"It would not be an exaggeration to say that in modern history, the example set by Vietnam is unique. It is rare to find a military exploit of a nation that stood firm and won in a life-and-death struggle against the big forces of colonialism and imperialism to unify their country and advance it along the path of socialism."

For his part, Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, said:

"Uncle Ho always taught us to understand clearly that the Lao revolution is the work of the Lao people, that we must live among the people, go among the grassroots, keep in close touch with the people and consider the task of educating, enouraging and organizing them to be the targets to achieve in carrying out revolutionary tasks. He used to remind us to pay attention to strengthening the solidarity of all nationalities in Laos.

Book on Cubans' Work

BK1805155090 Hanoi VNA in English 1536 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—A ceremony has been held here today to make public a newly-published Cuban book in Vietnamese entitled "Top Secrets, Cubans on Ho Chi Minh Trail" on the occasion of President Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary (May 19).

The book's author is Raul Valdes Vivo, first Cuban ambassador to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam in 1969 and then Cuban ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in 1973, and now member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and director of the Nico Lopez Party School. The book makes known top secrets concerning devoted efforts of a number of Cuban workers and soldiers who joined their Vietnamese comrades in blazing the Ho Chi Minh Trail in preparation for the spring 1975 military campaign to liberate South Vietnam from U.S. aggression.

Speaking at the ceremony, Phan Hien, deputy minister of culture, information, tourism and sports, praised the militant solidarity between the peoples of Vietnam and Cuba, and the author's great endeavours in writing the valuable literary book.

Reception Held 19 May

BK2205135690 Hanoi VNA in English 0722 GMT 20 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 20—A reception was given here yesterday evening by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, and the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front in honor of foreign guests to the celebrations of Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary.

Prominent among the guests were L.N. Zaykov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU; Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers; Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and president of the State of Cambodia; Jyoti Basu, Politburo member of the Communist Party of India and chief minister of the State of West Bengal; Raul Valdes Vivo, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee; Romesh Chandra, honorary president of the World Peace Council; and a number of close friends of the late President.

Members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations in Hanoi were also present.

Speaking at the reception, Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh sincerely thanked all the guests for their profound and fine sentiments towards the Vietnamese people manifested on the occasion of Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary. Hosts and guests raised their toasts to the constant development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and all other countries.

After the reception, the guests enjoyed an art performance at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall.

NHAN DAN Marks Event

BK2105143190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 May 90

[19 May NHAN DAN Editorial: "Continuing Great Uncle Ho's Work, Let's Successfully Build Socialism"]

[Text] The activities in all localities and sectors to commemorate the birth centenary of President Ho Chi Minh, our people's national liberation hero and esteemed and beloved teacher, are simple but bear a profound educational significance. In response to UNESCO's initiative, diversified activities have been organized in many countries throughout the world to mark a political event of 1990, the birth centenary of President Ho Chi Minh, a national liberation hero and a great man of culture. Through this 21st anniversary following President Ho's demise, the image and fine memories about Ho Chi Minh remain alive in the hearts of many Vietnamese generations and our friends throughout the world. Ho Chi Minh will be remembered forever because he took the lead and assumed the most arduous role in this century's great revolutionary currents sweeping away brutal, oppressive, and enslaving forces and liberating the enslaved nations and people. He will be remembered forever because he fought for the cause of liberating his own country and people as well as other oppressed people and nations, and because he contributed to ushering in an era of freedom for mankind as a whole. Nothing could stand in the way of his unswerving, indomitable will.

Ho Chi Minh was a symbol of purity, nobleness, humanity, and total dedication to the struggle to liberate the fatherland and to bring about freedom and happiness to his compatriots. He led a life full of difficulties and hardships and underwent all kinds of challenges. From his search for a solution to national salvation to his becoming the head of a famous revolutionary state, Uncle Ho always personified modesty, simplicity, a willingness to blend himself with other people, total dedication to the discharge of his duties toward the fatherland and compatriots, and a readiness to share the people's joy and sorrow.

Founded and guided by Uncle Ho, our party has educated and trained many generations of revolutionaries and has creatively applied the revolutionary doctrine of the era—Marxism-Leninism—to correctly resolve many problems facing the revolution in our country. The cause of liberating our nation and people has recorded great historic victories.

Prior to Uncle Ho's trip, our people were subjected to imperialism's enslavement. Various national salvation movements repeatedly broke out with very high intensity at first but eventually ended in failure. Firmly grasping the opportunity created by the success of the [Soviet] October Revolution and basing himself on Marxist-Leninist ideological concepts as well as on the situations in our country and other dependent countries, President Ho Chi Minh resolved a series of principled issues concerning the revolutionary struggle to liberate nations from colonial bondage. These issues call for efforts to coordinate the national liberation struggle with the struggle to abolish the exploitation of man by man as well as national struggle with class struggle; to combine our country's revolutionary interests with those of other countries; and to regard the national liberation struggle as the main objective to be fulfilled during the initial stage of the revolution.

A master in providing guidance, Ho Chi Minh was very active in supervising the implementation of strategies. In 1941, he supervised a change of strategy aimed at seizing the opportunity to lead the revolution to victory. In the bourgeois revolution for people's rights, he advised a suspension in implementing the motto "land to the tillers," while integrating all patriotic and democratic forces to liberate the fatherland. The change in this strategy was a prerequisite for the integration of all national patriotic forces for the Vietnamese Independence League, thereby forming the political and armed forces for the August general uprisings that resulted in the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Thanks to a thorough understanding in the guidance of this strategy, the revolutionary regime successfully expanded the National United Front and foiled the imperialists and international reactionaries' schemes to overthrow the revolutionary state to subjugate our nation.

The strengthening of unity of all patriotic and democratic forces is the most important factor guaranteeing the success of the two wars of resistance against the French and the Americans. Uncle Ho's immortal expressions: "We are willing to sacrifice all rather than lose our national independence and be dominated" and "there is nothing more precious than independence and freedom" as well as "unity, unity, great unity; success, success, great success" have become strategic mottos for reviewing achievements and experiences of our revolution. The significant point derived from these mottos has encouraged oppressed people to surge forward to carry out the basic, urgent task of liberating their nation. This liberation cause can be succeeded only by integrating the people and the working class under the leadership of their party. In the present era, the oppressed nations, after their national liberation, must surge forward to liberate their societies and men and lead their nations on the path of mankind's general evolution trend.

Since the establishment of our party through a brief political program, Uncle Ho clearly pointed to the developing orientations of our revolution: Liberating the society and releasing the production forces are the continuation of the national liberation to lead the nation to the development stage.

In the efforts to advance to socialism in North Vietnam since 1955 and the entire nation since 1975, the liberation of society and the release of production forces have scored significant achievements. However, our nation is still at the initial stage of the transition period because our production forces are weak while our people's standard of living is low.

The renovation undertaking set forth by the Sixth CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Congress has scored important initial achievements. This shows that our lines and policies are correct. However, our nation has not overcome the current socioeconomic crisis caused by the consequences of the previous years. The path chosen by our party and Uncle Ho is aimed at eliminating the system of exploitation of men by men, eliminating the ruling power of the oppressing class, promoting the working people's rights to rule the nation and society, and ensuring equality for everyone in society where all will live in freedom and with dignity. The party of the working class determined and ensured the development of this path. Developing along the socialist path is a firm guarantee of the fatherland's independence and the restoration of our nation. It helps narrow the economic, cultural gap between our nation and other developing countries, provides an opportunity for the advance of the scientific-industrial revolution, and helps our nation move forward.

Serious crises in many socialist countries and fierce sabotage activities of imperialism and reactionary forces against these nations will definitely have negative effects on our country's situation. Surging forward into development or being pushed back are great challenges facing our party at present. Certainly, we will overcome these challenges in our new march to build our country more prosperously and strongly and bring happiness and a bountiful life for our people.

As leaders of the new revolution, all communists must behave well to persistently maintain the willpower and lofty virtue of the our party's founder. Our people, having the willpower that can move mountains and fill up the seas, are determined to defeat all aggressive forces no matter how fierce and furious they are. This willpower must be the moving vanguard force in the current cause of building our nation to prosperity. As in the struggle for national liberation in the past, the integration of all Vietnamese and the strengthening of the blood-fresh relations between the Communist party and people in the national construction and defense and in restoring the nation are a firm guarantee for our successes.

Leaders Talk to Youths at Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum

BK2005151590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 May 90

[Radio correspondent's report—portions recorded]

[Summary] This morning, 17 May, more than 3,000 youths—including the delegates who are attending the national congress for outstanding youths to act upon Uncle Ho's teachings—gathered in front of our uncle's mausoleum at Ba Dinh Square, Hanoi, to report on their achievements and make their pledges. "The youths were elated to welcome Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Vu Oanh, secretary of the party Central Committee; Nguyen Quyet, secretary of the party Central Committee; mothers of heroes and fallen heroes; army and labor heroes; and representatives of various public offices and mass organizations at the central level and in Hanoi." The ceremony began at 0700 with the playing of the national anthem, followed by the playback of a recording of Uncle Ho's address to Vietnamese youths.

Next, Ho Duc Duyet, secretary of the youth union central committee, reported on the achievements of youths. He said:

Youths and teenagers throughout the country have overcome countless difficulties with determination to score new achievements. The emulation movement to act upon Uncle Ho's teachings launched by the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union has helped the youths record new successes in the undertaking to build and defend the fatherland and the process of national renewal. Today, in front of our uncle's mausoleum, together with representatives of the youths in the capital, the delegates attending the national congress for outstanding youths to act upon Uncle Ho's teachings will report on their achievements and make their pledges.

On behalf of the party Central Committee, Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh presented to the youths a brocade scroll bearing a portrait of President Ho Chi Minh and the inscription: Vietnamese youths will forever follow the revolutionary path chosen by Uncle Ho and the party. He then expressed his views:

"After pointing out President Ho Chi Minh's sentiments for and confidence in the youths and praising Vietnamese youths for their outstanding achievements and glorious traditions in the nation's common revolutionary cause, Nguyen Thanh Binh stressed:

[Begin recording] "I am very happy to note that in response to Uncle Ho's boundless affection and solicitous care for our country's younger generations and to his ardent wish that our youths will faithfully and oustandingly carry on the cause of the party and the nation to contribute to making our country more prosperous and beautiful, youths, teenagers, and children always try to be worthy of being good nephews and nieces of Uncle Ho and live up to their name as youths of the Ho Chi Minh era." [end recording]

On behalf of the Vietnamese youths, Comrade Ha Quang Du, first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, read the pledges of Vietnamese youths. He said:

Today, youths throughout the country and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union pledge to continue to vigorously promote the emulation movement to act upon Uncle Ho's teachings and take the lead in the undertaking to build and defend the socialist fatherland. With confidence in the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, we pledge to forever follow the path chosen by Uncle Ho and our party. We will do our best to serve the process of national renewal for the sake of socialism, national independence and freedom, and the fine future and happiness of youths.

Then, Le Thanh Quynh, an outstanding student of the Hanoi College of Foreign Languages, read a letter from the congress to youths throughout the country. Also this morning, the delegates attending the congress of outstanding youths were deeply moved to welcome Uncle Pham Van Dong, a veteran revolutionary fighter. In his talk to the youths, Uncle Pham Van Dong said:

[Begin recording] "The youths in our city number a few million, and nationwide this number is many times more. You must strive to win the broad participation of youths of all walks of life in society. This is an extremely difficult task. Today, I want to make this suggestion for the comrade secretary and members of the youth union central committee to consider. This task is not easy. Naturally, the targets of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union are youths of all walks of life in society. Instead of launching massive but empty campaigns, the union must devise a specific program of activities to gradually and step by step draw the participation of youths. Regarding this, I want first of all to stress one thing—that is, the youths must be employed. I call the comrade secretary's attention to this as a primary issue. If you agree with me that this is a primary issue, you should present it to the executive committee accordingly so actions will be taken to ensure employment for the youths." [end recording]

The meeting between the youths and Uncle Pham Van Dong was followed by a show performed by the Blue Star Art Troupe of the Border Defense Corps.

This afternoon, in ending the congress, the delegates visited a number of public offices, mass organizations, factories, and families of war invalids and fallen heroes in Hanoi.

Nguyen Quyet Addresses Army Youth Conference

BK1805141490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 16 May 90

[Speech by General Nguyen Quyet, head of the Vietnamese People's Army General Political Department, at closing session of Army Youth Conference in Hanoi on 16 May—recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: The imperialists have carried out peaceful evolution in combination with economic, cultural, and ideological infiltration, and they propagated a pragmatic life-style along with military deterrence in order to wipe out socialism in our country. If they succeed in eliminating our party leadership and neutralizing the Army and police, they will achieve their goal of wiping out socialism.

Faced with such a situation, all troops must be well aware of their role, responsibility, and tasks. They should protect the party, the administration, the socialist regime, the territorial integrity and sacred sovereignty of the country's air, ground, sea, islands, and continental shelves. They must clearly realize their responsibility for national duty and, at the same time, for the noble international duty of the Vietnamese People's Army. At this juncture, the army troops and youths must be all the more persistent, firm, and highly vigilant. Cadres and combatant must do their utmost to help enhance comprehensively the quality of our Army. Since the army troops are being reduced to the necessary level, their quality must be higher. The struggle to remain worthy of the title of Uncle Ho's soldiers is a very important movement to comprehensively enhance the quality of troops. The political orientation of the movement has been asserted. We should therefore seek every measure to accelerate and develop this movement. I propose that in the next three years, from 1990 to 1992, we should struggle to carry out well the following tasks:

1. Cadres, party members, and youth union members must consider that the movement involves all troops and that party members serve as the core and youth union members as the assault force of the movement. In this connection, everyone must join the movement with a high sense of responsibility to operate in an active manner, using specific measures to score concrete results. We must proceed from this movement to qualitatively enhance the party and youth union organizations and to improve the quality of party and union members.

2. We should pay the most attention to the education of troops on traditions by bringing into play the traditions of the nation, party, Army, and youth union. On this basis we should raise the stature and viewpoint of the class. We should persist in our socialist objectives and ideals; resolutely protect the viewpoints, lines, and leadership of the party and the socialist regime; and support the renovation line based on the party's viewpoints and stand. In order to do so, the party organization must be truly firm and strong, party members must be true pioneers, youth union organizations must be the reserve body of the party, and their members must truly be the assault force.

The youth union organizations should pay attention to providing the party with young members or be a source of young officers to build the Army in the long term. Those youth union members who have fulfilled their duty with the Army and have returned to their home localities should bring into full play the traditions of Uncle Ho's soldiers, and participate in building the militia and self-defense forces, the reserve mobilization force, and a firm and strong rear service. Young soldiers who used to be army youth union members and have returned to their home localities should strive to bring into play the character and traditions of the Army and serve as a core in the movement. Youth unions in localities are the mainstay of the party and administration and are the core force of mass organizations in localities.

3. Party committee echelons should firmly grasp and correctly perform their leading function and overcome forcible, bureaucratic, and dictatorial working methods or the neglecting of youth tasks. They must consider mass motivation and caring for the people's interests as a main task in their activities. Prestigious and competent party committee members must be assigned to the youth task. All party members must fulfill their functions and duties well to set good examples of life-style and serve as a core in the struggle movement to remain worthy of being Uncle Ho's soldiers. Party committee echelons must strive to consolidate basic party organizations, raise the militancy of party members, systematically implement the democratic regime, encourage youths to participate in all the positions and tasks of leaders and units, and frequently set up a system for youths to join in criticizing cadres and party members. This is to make party members actively participate in all tasks of units and to turn youths into real masters of their units.

They must intensify leadership, consolidate and build firm and strong basic youth union organizations, perfect the contingent of union cadres, functional bases, and youth tasks at all levels to discharge well their function as advisors to leaders on the motivation of youths in the new situation.

4. The purpose of the struggle movement to remain worthy of being Uncle Ho's soldiers is to make our Army completely good. The movement is not to be limited within the Army. It must also bear a profound social nature. As a result, on the strength of experiences acquired over the past two years of implementing the movement, we should attentively conduct propaganda and bring into play the results of the movement to enable party committee echelons, the administration at all levels, all social and political organizations, and all the people to join in the movement. Only if we can do so can we closely combine the efforts of troops with the support of the entire society to create an integrated strength to vigorously accelerate and develop the movement. Moreover, when stationed in various areas, party committee commanders and youth union cadres of all ranks should attentively and closely coordinate with the party committees, the administration, mass organizations, and youth union base localities and cooperate with one another to build their units and localities and the youth unions in the Army and in their localities.

5. I recommend that youth union members should be trained most satisfactorily in the following areas:

First, they should be made highly vigilant against the enemies and well aware of self-imposed discipline. They should not engage in dolce vita, indulging in drinking and smoking. They should live within their means to avoid over spending and living from hand to mouth. The enemies focus on the weaknesses of youths. Through various activities in youth union organizations, let all our youths help one another build a wholesome and healthy lifestyle and resolve not to fall into the enemies' traps. They should regularly cultivate friendship, comradeship, and the people-troops solidarity. Otherwise, they will lose their dignity and fall into temptation. With rich friendship and firm solidarity, we will never fall into temptation and will progress constantly.

Dear comrades: From now until the seventh national party congress, we should prepare to make the best contributions to the party's platform and socioeconomic strategy for next year. Before convening the national party congress, party organizations at all levels will conduct congresses from the grass-roots level upward. I urge all comrade party and youth union members of all ranks to make positive and comprehensive contributions to the success of party organization congresses at all levels and to the coming all-army and national party congresses.

Youth union members should realize well their responsibility for building the party most satisfactorily. A firm and strong party is a decisive condition that will firmly maintain political stability in our country and create a good environment for all our party members and people to carry out the renovation process. I hope that you, comrades, have implemented and are implementing well the party central committee's eighth plenum resolution. This way, you will have even more experiences to help build our party and make it truly and comprehensively firm and strong, enabling it to lead our entire people in defending and developing socialism in our beloved country. By performing well these duties, we clearly express our respect for and gratitude to great Uncle Ho. After this conference, you will return to your localities and will convey the results and experiences acquired at this conference to all party and youth union members in your localities in order to promote the results of the movement and encourage all cadres and combatants to struggle and remain worthy of the title of Uncle Ho's soldiers.

Do Muoi Attends Socioeconomic Strategy Meeting

BK1805093890 Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 18—A national symposium on "Vietnam's strategy for socioeconomic development towards the year 2000" was held here on May 16 and 17 by the Vietnam Union of Scientific and Technological Associations.

Many papers presented at the symposium put forth practical ideas contributing to the formulation of a draft of the strategy for Vietnam's socioeconomic development in the coming period of time, including those relating to the orientation for working out the strategy and concrete plans and policies in order to achieve the objectives set by the party and government.

Addressing the symposium Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi and Vice-Chairman Vo Nguyen Giap commended the Vietnamese scientists and technicians for their practical contributions to the country's socioeconomic development in the past and reminded the union to better discharge their functions as the supervisor and consultant in the process of planning national development.

Hanoi Marks 'Day Against Natural Disasters'

BK1805005090 Hanoi VNA in English 1533 GMT 17 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 17—The Council of Ministers has decided to take May 22 as the Vietnam Day Against Natural Disasters in response to the "International Decade for Natural Disasters Reduction" (IDNDR) (1990-2000) initiated by the United Nations.

On this occasion, a meeting was held here yesterday by the Ministry of Water Conservancy and the Central Anti-Storm and Flood Committee.

Addressing the meeting, Minister of Water Conservancy Nguyen Canh Dinh, also head of the Central Anti-Storm and Flood Committee, said that since May 22, 1946 following President Ho Chi Minh's decree on the setting up of the Central Dyke Protection Committee in North Vietnam, the people throughout the country have built more than 250 million cubic metres of dykes and four million cubic metres of stone embankment.

However, he further said, many things remain to be done, first of all to plant and protect upper-reach forests and build more large-sized reservoirs so as to prevent floods in the Red River Delta and the northern part of central Vietnam.

Australia

Hawke Leaves Hospital Following Operation

BK2205012490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0100 GMT 22 May 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Hawke, has been discharged from a Sydney hospital following a prostate operation last Friday. Mr. Hawke was discharged today from St. Vincent Hospital and is resting at Kirribilli House.

Mr. Hawke's doctor says the operation to relieve an enlarged prostate went very well and no sign of cancer was detected. The deputy prime minister, Mr. Keating, is acting prime minister until Mr. Hawke resumes duty.

Fiji

Premier Leaves on Trip 'To Renew World Ties'

BK2205022290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0216 GMT 22 May 90

[By Davendra Sharma]

[Text] Suva, May 22 (AFP)—Fiji Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara left Tuesday [22 May] on a trip to Japan, Switzerland, Britain, Egypt and Israel as part of Suva's campaign to renew world ties after the two 1987 coups here.

The 24-day trip comes comes just weeks after Ratu Mara visited China, Taiwan and Singapore. Army strongman Major General [Maj. Gen.] Sitiveni Rabuka returned last week from a 25-day swing through South Korea, China and Malaysia.

A spokesman for the prime minister said Ratu Mara left for Japan where he was scheduled to meet his counterpart Toshiki Kaifu and Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama on Wednesday and Thursday. There was no immediate word on the agenda for the discussions with the Japanese, who are this South Pacific island republic's third largest trading partner after Australia and New Zealand.

Fiji imported 90 million U.S. dollars' worth of goods from Japan last year, mainly machinery, electronic and electrical goods. It exported 26 million U.S. dollars' worth of items to Japan, largely timber, wood chips and fish.

Ratu Mara will fly from Tokyo to London where no official itinerary had been fixed but plans were in the works for meetings with Foreign Ministry officials.

The spokesman said Ratu Mara would also meet with Fiji's London-based ambassador to Israel and Egypt, former army commander Colonel Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, before heading for Geneva, Switzerland, on Sunday. There he will attend next Monday and Tuesday's meeting of major donor countries and international finance institutions involved with Fiji and other countries. The talks will be under the aegis of the United Nations Development Programme.

Fiji's interim government last month submitted several proposals for development assistance to help the country's economy back on its feet after the military coups engineered by Maj. Gen. Rabuka.

The spokesman here said Ratu Mara was due in Egypt on May 31 and would meet President Husni Mubarak before heading off to Lebanon to inspect U.N. peacekeeping operations. Fiji has a 725-man battalion serving with the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

Ratu Mara will fly to Israel for talks with his counterpart Yitzhaq Shamir and President Hayim Herzog on June 7 before returning home June 15, the spokesman said. Since Israel opened a full-fledged embassy in Suva in early 1988, Fiji has received numerous aid and trade offers from Tel Aviv. A high-level trade delegation from Israel visited Fiji last month to investigate investment and trade prospects here. Fiji currently exports no goods to Israel, but imports nearly 49,000 U.S. dollars' in chemical products, rubber and industrial machinery.

French Polynesia

France's Mitterrand Concludes Visit, Departs

LD1905081690 Paris Domestic Service in French 2030 GMT 18 May 90

[Text] President Mitterrand is on his way home. The head of state left Tahiti a short time ago for Paris, where he is expected tomorrow around 1600 hours. President Mitterrand made the theme of this visit cooperation and dialogue with the other countries in the region.

Papua New Guinea

Namaliu Secures $700 Million in Overseas Aid

BK2105092490 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 21 May 90

[Text] Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Mr. Namaliu, says foreign aid donors have given the country a vote of confidence by pledging millions of dollars in new assistance.

Mr. Namaliu was speaking at a weekend news conference shortly after his return from Singapore. While there, he and the finance minister, Mr. Paul Pora, managed to secure aid worth $700 million from various sources despite Papua New Guinea's low commodity prices and the Bougainville crisis.

Mr. Namaliu said half of the aid would come as grants while the other half would be in form of concessional loans.

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